

FREE

# Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk May 25, 2014

East Edition No 609

## ELECTIONS »

**Tories hit hard  
by Ukip surge**  
Local election shocks ahead  
of European results

## ENVIRONMENT »

**Pressure grows  
for fracking**  
Fresh report highlights  
gas under the county

## RURAL »

**Countryside's  
£6bn price tag**  
Group unveils a 'share price'  
for our rural economy

## BIG DEBATE »

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## Why public money is to be guarded not used to win votes

IT WOULD appear an increasingly knee-jerk reaction from our communities is that if there's a disused commercial site whipping up some emotion for one reason or another, we should dig deep into the public purse and withdraw a fistful of notes all wrapped up in a Compulsory Purchase Order.

The CPO is seen as the cure to all ills. Want to clear Tunbridge Wells of the eyesore which is the old cinema site? The council ought to buy it.

Want to keep planes coming in and out of Manston Airport? Then create so much noise the council feels duty bound to invest.

Yet while it is clearly an option, and one which must be considered carefully, public money is not there to simply be spent as and when a vocal minority insist.

While it is very easy to criticise and deride the actions of our local authorities when

necessary, they should guard the money entrusted to them with the greatest of probity.

After all, in the case of Manston Airport, for example, years of firms who specialise in running small airports, have failed to make the airfield turn a healthy profit.

Why on earth would it be any different if the council buy it? What's more, there's a compelling argument to say Thanet District Council has pumped too much public money into transport projects in the past.

But the point is that public money is not something to gamble with – especially not in these austere times.

However excitable people may get.

Councils of all colours have a duty to spend our money wisely at all times.

However tempting, however potentially vote-winning, it may prove otherwise.

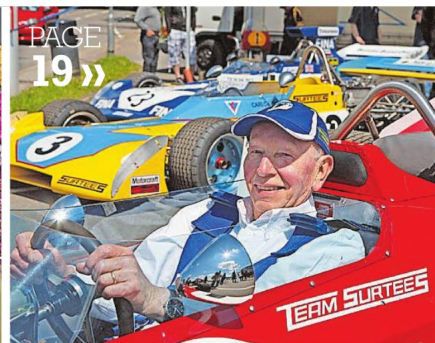
Have a great weekend.



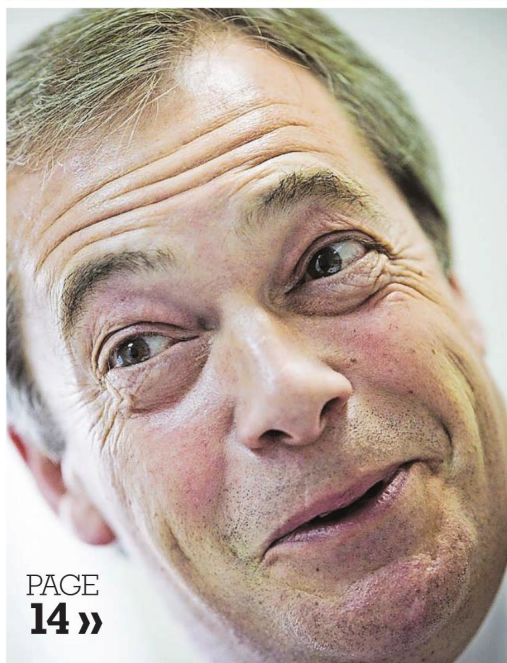
Editor **Chris Britcher**



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## Council falls as Ukip hit Tories with key victories

By Chris Britcher

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THE Conservative Party's six-year grip on Maidstone Borough Council was released in the early hours of Friday morning as the results of the local elections saw it become a hung council.

The Tories remain the dominant player in the county town, but will now need to build a coalition should it want to ensure a majority in the council chambers.

There were some 20 seats up for grabs – around a third of the total number of councillors.

Local Tory leader Chris Garland said: "Of course it's a disappointing night for the local Conservative group in Maidstone, and now we will look to work in coalition with another group."

Overall, Ukip were the big winners on the night, taking four seats, while the Conservatives lost an identical number. The Liberal Democrats saw the loss of one seat, while Labour added one.

Tories lost their grip on the Harrietsham and Lenham wards, while Ukip also picked up Shepway South and North and Park Wood.

Labour also picked up a seat



from the Lib Dems in a closely fought contest in Fant.

Maidstone council now comprises of 25 Conservatives, 19 Lib Dems, five Independents, four Ukip and two Labour.

Elections took place in Tunbridge Wells too – the scene of a major shock in the last local elections when Bob Atwood, the then council leader for the Conservatives, was defeated in his Rusthall seat by a Ukip candidate.

However, there were no further

surprises when the ballot boxes were emptied and counted on Friday morning.

Despite boasts from Ukip ahead of the polls they would secure a handful of seats, the reality was they gained no more of the 16 seats available.

Instead Tunbridge Wells lived up to its 'true blue' image with 14 of the seats going to the Tories.

The Lib Dems retained one – that of leader David Neave – while Labour held on to High Brooms.

The Liberal Democrats will be licking their wounds, however, after they lost two to the Tories.

Labour will be alarmed at its hoped for resurgence failing to materialise in any great numbers just a year away from a General Election.

However, the key results from Thursday will come apparent in the early hours of tomorrow morning when the 10 MEPs for the south east will be declared. We look ahead to the result on page 14.

## Ukip: We'll do a deal with the devil to force a referendum on Europe

UKIP has offered to do a deal with Tory or Labour candidates at next year's General Election which would allow them to stand under the banner of both parties.

The party's leader, Nigel Farage, mooted the idea on BBC Radio 4 on Wednesday morning and said that he would "do a deal with the devil" to get a referendum on whether Britain should stay in the European Union.

"There is new legislation that has come through under the coalition government that allows a candidate to stand with the official banner of more than one party," Mr Farage said on the Today programme.

"There are one or two sitting Tory MPs who have already said they would like to run as Tory/Ukip candidates, and some Labour Eurosceptics may take the same view.

"I'm open to having those conversations. But as I understand it, that would be vetoed by David Cameron and probably Ed Miliband."

He added: "I would help a minority party in Westminster. I would do a

deal with the devil if it got us a referendum."

Mr Farage, who lives in Westerham, described the idea of Ukip hoping to win next year's General Election outright as "entirely ridiculous".

The party polled just 3.1 per cent of the vote at the last general election in 2010.

"We will not pursue a strategy to win the General Election. That would be moonshine," Mr Farage added.

"We will target our resources and target our best people to get a good number of Ukip MPs elected and who knows, we may hold the balance of power if we get that right."

However, both the Conservatives and the Labour Party told Kent on Sunday that they would not be interested in such a deal.

A Conservative Party spokesman described the idea as "nonsense" and said that any Conservative who agreed to a deal would probably be expelled from the party.

Mr Farage is expected to stand in Kent at next year's General Election.

## Sewage spill causes chaos on Thanet's beaches again

BEACHES in Thanet were once again hit by a sewage problem on Friday after an overnight discharge left bathers warned not to enter the water.

And with the bank holiday weekend, it sparked a clean-up operation in order to ensure visitors could still enjoy the coastline over what is traditionally one of the busiest times of the year.

It followed an emergency discharge at the Southern Water sewage pumping station at Foreness Point.

The area affected extended from Walpole Bay to Dumpton Gap including: Walpole Bay, Palm Bay, Botany Bay, Kingsgate Bay, Joss Bay, Stone Bay, Viking Bay, Louisa Bay and Dumpton Gap.

A similar problem caused beaches to be closed in June 2012.

## Dispersal zone hits the road in a bid to deter A20 bikers

A DISPERSAL zone has been thrown around an area in Wrotham in a bid by police to crack down on anti-social behaviour by motorcyclists on the A20.

Operating from this week until October, the zone has been jointly authorised by Kent Police and Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, under the powers of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003.

It was applied for after reports of motorcyclists driving dangerously and "risking injury to themselves and other road users".

Under the Act, any group of two or more people found causing or likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress can be dispersed by a uniformed officer. Failure to comply will incur big fines or imprisonment.



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## Alert amid fears chalk marks are criminal code

POLICE are investigating after a number of suspicious chalk markings were found outside homes in and around Sevenoaks.

It is feared the markings could be a code used by crooks to identify certain properties as being vulnerable.

Different methods of chalk marking have been used in the past by offenders to pinpoint properties as targets for crimes including burglary.

A number of pink crosses have been reported in Shoreham, on pavements in Church Street and the High Street.

However, officers say it is possible the markings could be a practical joke, or children playing.

Residents are urged to be vigilant and to contact police if they have any concerns. Officers have conducted door-to-door visits in the affected areas.

## Fracking pressure grows as report highlights huge resource beneath our feet

By Maria Chiorando

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LOCAL authorities are set to come under increasing pressure to give the green light to fracking after a survey this week once again highlighted the oil and gas supplies beneath parts of the county.

The analysis by the British Geological Society (BGS), has found large amounts of shale oil under rocks in areas including the Weald Basin, estimated to add up to 'billions of barrels' worth.

It says up to 8.5bn barrels lies in the zone that stretches across Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire. Although it also says it may not be recoverable. It adds a conservative estimate would be nearer to 4.4bn.

Fracking is a hugely controversial process of extracting shale gas and oil and involves blasting water at a high intensity into rocks, forcing the gas and oil out.

Those opposed to the process warn it can pollute local water sup-



**DRILLS:** Will authorities resist?

plies and even trigger earthquakes.

But the quantity of potential fuel available would mean the UK would be able to lessen its reliance on the likes of Middle Eastern oil and stable energy bills – which is likely to

appeal to the Government.

When Prime Minister David Cameron made a visit to Kent last year, he told KoS that the nation should be prepared to exploit the resource.

As a consequence, it is willing to offer financial perks to the local authorities which allow drilling to go ahead – most notably allowing it to keep all business rates from the operation – which it claims could be worth in excess of £1m per year.

Campaigners, though, are ready to take the fight on.

Friends of the Earth's south east regional campaigner, Brenda Pollack, said: "These latest estimates will set alarm bells ringing across the south east where fracking firms seem intent on punching holes in some of Britain's most beautiful countryside in the search for profits.

"Shale oil and gas are not the solution to the UK's energy challenges. Rather than drilling for more dirty fossil fuels that will add to climate change, the Government should be backing renewable power and energy efficiency."



**RELAY:** Golden girl Lizzy Yarnold

## Queen's baton heads our way before Games

THE Queen's Baton Relay will pass through the county next month en route to Glasgow and the start of the Commonwealth Games.

The baton will travel through Tonbridge, Dartford, Herne Bay, Folkestone and Maidstone on June 5.

It will be carried by local community heroes, nominated for their contributions to sports, coaching, education and the community in Kent.

Among the famous faces getting involved with the double Olympic star Dame Kelly Holmes, and Winter Olympic stars Lizzy Yarnold and Millie Knight.

The baton will begin in Tonbridge where it will be welcomed by 1,000 school children at Tonbridge Castle.

Dame Kelly, president of Commonwealth Games England which is organising the route, said: "The schoolchildren will do a fantastic job in cheering on your inspirational baton-bearers and being part of the Team England send-off to Glasgow."

Mike Hill, Kent County Council cabinet member for community services, said "The county council has worked hard with Kent schools to make the day extraordinarily special and inspirational for young people right across the county."

## Suspended term for cruel horse owner

A HORSE owner who caused unnecessary suffering to 13 horses in his care – a total of eight of which died as a consequence – has been handed a suspended prison sentence.

William Cook, of Lombard Street in Horton Kirby, appeared this week before magistrates in Dartford.

He faced 18 separate charges under the Animal Welfare Act. He pleaded guilty to all.

Two horses in his care, kept at an address in Mead Road, Edenbridge, were found dead from neglect – another six died from related conditions soon afterwards.

He was disqualified from keeping horses for 10 years, sentenced to a 24-week prison sentence suspended for six months and given a curfew order which stated he cannot leave the house between 10am and 4pm for six months.

He was also ordered to pay £24,656 plus a victim surcharge of £80. The RSPCA said: "This was a shocking case of horse neglect."

## UK public opposes estuary airport plans

JUST one in six adults across the UK would support the building on a multi-billion pound airport in the Thames Estuary if it meant closing existing facilities at Heathrow, City and Southend airports a new poll has revealed.

The survey, carried out by ComRes and commissioned by Medway Council and Kent County Council, asked more than 2,000 British adults if they supported plans for a new airport in the Thames Estuary.

Just over a third (38 per cent) said they would support an estuary airport. However, this figure plummets to just 16 per cent when people are told that existing major facilities would have to close as a result.

Rodney Chambers, leader of Medway Council, said: "We strongly believe that plans to site a hub airport in the Thames Estuary are financially, geographically and environmentally wrong. It will waste tens of billions of pounds of taxpayers' money for a project on the wrong side of London."

## Lifeguards making a splash as they return

LIFEGUARDS will return to the county's beaches this weekend for the start of the summer season.

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) will begin patrols at 12 beaches on the north and east coasts, ten in Thanet and two on Sheppey.

Last year the county's lifeguards saved seven lives, rescued 42 beach-goers and overall helped 750 people, including giving first aid 555 times.

James Uren, RNLI lifeguard supervisor, said: "If you are visiting a favourite spot for the first time this year, it's worth being aware that the storms last winter may have changed the make-up of the beach, creating rip currents in places you may not expect. I'd encourage people to ask a lifeguard about enjoying the beach safely and to always swim between the red and yellow flags."

The beaches covered will be, in Thanet: Minnis Bay, West Bay, St Mildreds, Westbrook Bay, Margate, Botany Bay, Joss Bay, Stone Bay, Broadstairs and Ramsgate. And in Sheppey: Sheerness and Leysdown.



# agenda

What will make next week's headlines...

## Cathedral set to learn of lottery funding bid

CANTERBURY Cathedral is expected to hear this week the outcome of its bid to secure funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The cathedral has suffered serious decline in recent years and many parts of the ancient structure are in desperate need of improvements.

It was left deflated after a £10mil-

lion bid for funds last year failed to be approved by the fund – prompting some within the cathedral to warn that without significant investment some parts of the building would have to be closed to visitors.

Already the county's most popular tourist attraction, it pulls in more than one million visitors every year.



The building receives no state funding, or money from the Church of England. It raises money for day-to-day costs through entrance fees and by utilising property which forms its precincts.

## Duke to hear of church's development proposals

THE Duke of Kent will be making a special visit to St Augustine's Church in Ramsgate on Tuesday.

One of the key attractions in the town, the Gothic building is the burial place of the architect famous for his work on the Houses of Parliament, Augustus Pugin.

The duke will meet the rector,

Fr Marcus Holden, who will show him around the site and explain plans for a new education, research, and visitor centre, for which the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) have awarded a development grant of £82,000.

St Augustine's is fundraising to match fund an HLF grant totalling £800,000.

## ...also

### Maidstone bridge shuts

IMPROVEMENTS to Maidstone's High Level Railway Bridge and footpath above Royal Engineers' Way and the River Medway mean it will be shut to pedestrian from today until June 1.

The footpath runs between Maidstone East and the Barracks railway stations.

### Breakfast show relaunch

BBC Radio Kent's new-look breakfast show will get under way on Monday.

Popular presenter John Warnett will be joined on air by newcomer Maggie Doyle for the official start of their new show.

Ms Doyle has been stand-in co-host since the departure of Clare McDonnell.

### Great War discussion

AUSTRIA's ambassador to the UK, Dr Emil Brix, will join a panel of First World War experts at the University of Kent on Friday to consider why and how the centenary of the Great War should be commemorated.

It will focus on how all countries involved in the conflict will reflect.

### Traffic set to increase

TRAFFIC across the county is set to be busy on Monday as the bank holiday and start of the school half-term holidays combine.

Roads are likely to become more congested and cross-Channel operators will be expecting high visitor numbers.

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Pictures: RHS



**BRANCHING OUT:** Jo Thompson, pictured centre, was once again a winner at this year's show for her London Square inspired garden which was well received by judges and the public alike

# Our gardeners in great shape after blooming at Chelsea Flower Show

**T**HE RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2014 proved another explosion of scents and colours as thousands of visitors from around the world flocked to one of the horticultural world's foremost events. Staged over the past week in the grounds of the Royal Hospital in west London, the event is organised by the Royal Horticultural Society. While not the biggest event of its kind – that title goes to the RHS' Hampton Court Show – it is certainly the most celebrated. As a consequence, the top garden designers seek to make or cement their reputation by impressing the judges. And there was delight for a number of our county's green-fingered experts who scooped some of the most prestigious awards. Among the winners was perennial victor Jo Thompson from Cranbrook. She produced a design for developers London Square based on her interpretation of the corner of a garden square, complete with trees, a place to sit and a mix of traditional and contemporary elements, and was re-



## RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2014: Kent winners

Exhibitor	Category	Awards
Orchid Society of Great Britain	Floral Marquee	Gold
London Square	Fresh Garden	Gold
WellChild	Fresh Garden	Silver-Flora
Maggie Temple	Flower Arranging	Silver-Flora

warded with a gold medal in the Fresh Garden category. It is not the first time she has enjoyed success, having collected gold and silver medals in previous years, as well as best in show. Ms Thompson said: "This is an amazing accolade and I am so proud to have achieved this. "I was inspired by the name of the sponsor, London Square, to design a quiet corner of a garden square. "Visitors to the show have sought out the garden and enjoyed a few peaceful moments, sitting on the bench amidst the flowers, shrubs and silver birches.

"I grew up in Italy and squares are very much a feature of Italian life, as they are in London – communal and convivial spaces for people to meet, exchange gossip and watch the world go by. "I used to live near Eccleston Square in Pimlico, which is known for its roses and is considered to be one of the capital's most beautiful garden squares. "Squares have been part of London life for centuries. "They can transport you to another place and yet be metres from a busy road and the heart of a city. I tried to capture this in our Chelsea garden."

Also celebrating was former television presenter turned garden expert Debbie Rix. She was awarded a silver-gilt flora in the same Fresh Garden category. Other winners included Sevenoaks' Maggie Temple who collected a silver flora in the flower arranging. Highlights of the show included Paul Harris, who runs Brookfield Plants in Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford, and his unveiling of a new plant at the show named after Wimbledon 2013 tennis champion Andy Murray.

His specially created Hosta, a type of Asian perennial herbaceous plant from the lily family was named after the star by Mr Harris and the British Hosta and Hemerocallis Society. They chose to dedicate it to the sportsman because the plant's blue and white leaves are reminiscent of the Scottish Saltire. As part of the launch, Mr Murray's long-time partner, Kim Sears, appeared at the show to welcome it. Last July, Mr Murray became the first British player in 77 years to lift the men's singles' title at Wimbledon. One gardener who experienced life on the other side of the fence this year, was Roger Platts. He runs the Roger Platts Garden Design and Nursery in Edenbridge. He was a champion designer last year, winning a coveted gold medal for his garden design Windows Through Time which captured and celebrated the design trends through the shows past and present. However, this year he was asked to be one of the seven judges in the Fresh and Artisan garden categories.





# BIG FASHION WEEKEND

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# Environmental concerns as new 20km pylon route is announced

Hopes that some stretches of a new power network known as the Richborough Connection would be placed underground to spare the east Kent landscape were dashed this week. **Jamie Weir** reports.

COUNTRYSIDE campaigners have expressed their disappointment after it was announced that a new power network will see pylons built across east Kent – rather than going underground.

The Richborough Connection will see 20km of pylons stretch from a sub-station at Richborough, near Sandwich, to Canterbury.

It will channel power from Belgium delivered through what is known as the undersea Nemo Link and then distribute it within the UK's electricity network. Draft details of the route were made at an announcement on Tuesday morning in Canterbury by National Grid.

The route will broadly follow an existing row of pylons stretching through that area but will require the use of larger versions to transmit the increased levels of electricity.

If traditional lattice pylons are used they would be almost 50 metres high – the equivalent to 11 double-decker buses on top of one another.

However, National Grid has stated it could use its new T-tylon if the project gets approval quickly.

The T-tylons are much shorter than the existing lattice type at under 35m. Being shorter may mean there would be less visual impact, although as a result of their diminished height and inability to turn right angles National Grid would need to use more of them.

Those calling for some of the cables to run underground were left disappointed after confirmation that the new line would be overground.

The route will run close to Sarre, Upstreet, Hersden, Chislet, Broad Oak and Sturry, although National Grid has stressed that the new line will be placed farther away from people's houses.

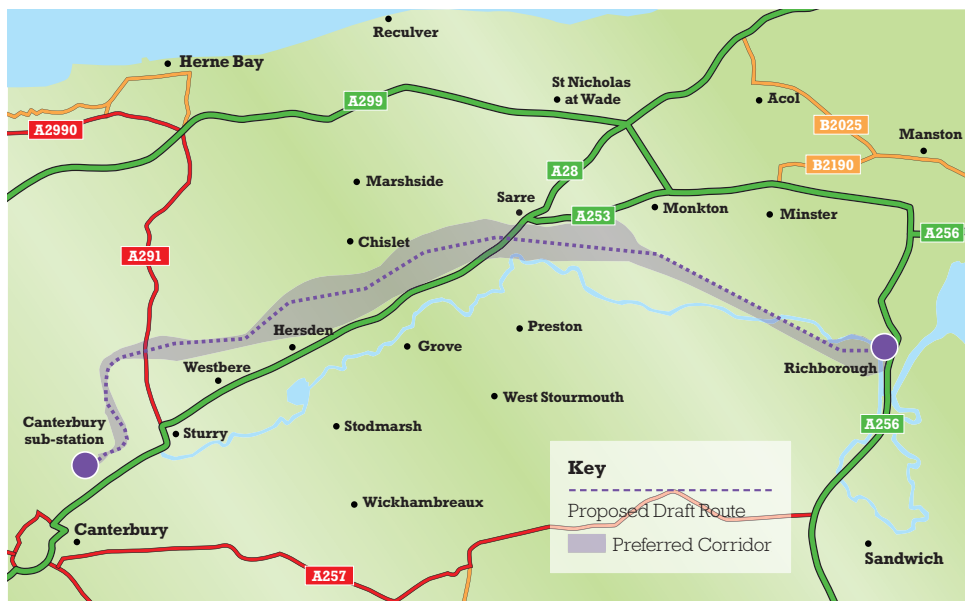
Dr Hilary Newport, director of CPRE Kent – the local arm of the Campaign to Protect Rural England – said of the announcement: "It will be very visible from the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and definitely have a significant impact on areas around the route.

"Since changes are going to be made anyway, with the removal of the existing pylons, it seems a shame the project team has not made more effort to consider undergrounding to reverse the existing impact on the landscape."

National Grid has stated it expects the new string of pylons to have less impact on the countryside than the existing set for a number of reasons.

It argues that using the natural contours and topography of the landscape will allow them to mask and minimise any visual impact.

It also says that because the new pylons will be larger, stronger structures – whichever type is used – it



**LINED UP:** National Grid could use T-pylons along new route, which concerns CPRE's Dr Hilary Newport, below



won't need to use as many of them, with up to 25 per cent fewer of the structures needed for the new line.

**“The Ash Levels are a wide, open landscape and higher pylons are likely to have a much greater impact on vistas across the low horizon lines here”**

**Dr Hilary Newport,**  
Director of CPRE Kent

But campaigners still remain unconvinced.

Dr Newport said: "The Ash Levels [the south bank of the River Stour between Richborough and East Stourmouth] are a wide, open landscape and higher pylons are likely to have a much greater impact on vistas across the low horizon lines here."

National Grid insists that burying the cables would add significantly to the cost of the project, with additional funding having to come from customers through price hikes to their utility bills.

Steve Self, project manager for the Richborough Connection, told KoS: "We believe this is the best option so far to get between those two points.

"From the work we've done, no part

of the route is sensitive enough for it to be put underground. If we put it underground, it costs more, and we all pay for that.

"When people say it's cheaper to underground electricity cables abroad it can be like comparing apples with pears. The cables usually referred to are lower-voltage electricity cables, not the higher-voltage and capacity cables needed to transport large amounts of power as required in this case.

"The independent Institute of Engineering and Technology report of 2012 identified the use of higher-voltage and capacity cables has a big impact on cost."

Dr Newport argued that cost might not be as big a factor, once other things were worked in to the picture.

## THE NEMO LINK

NATIONAL Grid is connecting new nuclear, wind farm and other energy sources around the UK.

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This will allow electricity to flow between the UK and Europe, helping to provide, says National Grid, "a secure supply of electricity to homes and businesses for years to come".

There is, however, no National Grid high-voltage transmission network in the Richborough area, so it needs to build a new connection to join Richborough to the National Grid high-voltage transmission network.

The infrastructure project is called the Richborough Connection.

Richborough is being used as there are pylons in place, running from the site of the former Richborough power station. However, the pylons, owned by UK Power Networks, and not the National Grid, operate at a lower voltage, hence the need for new ones for this project.

She said: "There's a strong focus on the 'unnecessary' expense of undergrounding transmission lines, but it is not so long ago the winter storms brought down power cables and plunged wide areas of the country into power cuts – underground cables would be much more resilient to extreme weather events."

National Grid says it has sent letters to some 6,000 residents to keep them informed about the project due to their close proximity to it.

The initial consultation that National Grid says it ran to decide which corridor the route would take attracted more than 600 responses from members of the public.

It has also held a number of community events – and intends to stage more. Six information events in areas that will be affected by the new pylons will take place throughout June, offering the chance to feedback give on the proposals.

If all goes to plan, the pylons will be up and running by the autumn of 2018.

■ For more details, visit [www.richboroughconnection.co.uk](http://www.richboroughconnection.co.uk).

**M**ANSTON Airport risks becoming a 'black hole' for taxpayers' money, if a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) is served on the site.

That's the claim of the TaxPayers' Alliance which sent a warning shot across the bows of Thanet District Council after a week of mounting calls for it to dip into the public purse and takeover the stricken airfield.

The airport shut down last Thursday, May 15, after repeated failed bids to take it over.

It has now become a political hot potato as to what to do next – and provided the new leader of Thanet council, Iris Johnston, with something of a baptism of fire in her first full week in the post.

She replaced fellow Labour councillor Clive Hart in the hot-seat after he resigned.

Speaking to KoS this week, Cllr Johnston confirmed the council is indeed strongly considering the option to pursue a CPO.

However, Manston has struggled to be a commercial success ever since it entered private ownership after being sold by the Ministry of Defence.

All of which raises the question of whether public funding should be used to fund private enterprises?

Andy Silvester, campaign manager at the TaxPayers' Alliance, said: "Regardless of the philosophical concerns about the seizure of private property, there is a real danger that Manston Airport could become a black hole for taxpayers' money.

"It has been losing money as an airport, so the council would have to be very confident that it would be able to recoup all its investment.

"It's totally understandable that employees and residents want the airport open again, but prudence has to be the watch word."

Businesswoman Ann Gloag bought the site in October 2013 for £1. She had hoped to secure a passenger service with Ryanair and freight deal with British Airways. But when both fell through, she was left with a business which it was originally claimed was losing £10,000 a day. This week it was claimed the total daily loss was actually close to £12,000.

Cllr Johnston refutes the figures coming out of the Gloag camp. She said: "Members of airport staff have said to me they feel that figures showing the full financial potential of the airport weren't put forward."

After putting the airport on the market, Mrs Gloag was reportedly offered the full asking price of £7 million from American investor



**FINANCES:** Under threat Manston Airport is supported by Thanet council's new leader Iris Johnston (inset)

## Fears Manston could be financial 'black hole' if council purchases site

### WHAT IS A COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER?

A COMPULSORY Purchase Order (CPO) allows certain bodies, usually local authorities, which need to obtain land or property to do so without the consent of the owner.

The CPO can be enforced when the owner of the land does not want to sell it, but it is considered that selling would be in the public interest, for example, in the case of building transport links such as motorways or railway lines.

The local authority does have to be able to demonstrate that obtaining the land in this way is necessary, and that there is a 'compelling case in the public interest'.

Thanet council is no stranger to the legislation. It acquired the Dreamland site in Margate after serving a CPO in 2011. Although there were legal wrangles, it was given ownership in October 2013.

The public interest was in the redevelopment of the ailing park, so it could serve as a tourist attraction, bringing visitors to the area, but also providing local jobs. It is currently closed, with plans to re-open the first phase of the park in 2015.

There is a statutory time limit on local authorities to secure funding, which means that it can sometimes be difficult for them to use their CPO powers, as they have to pull together enough money.

Sometimes the balance of funds versus the public interest rules out the application of a CPO, such as in the case of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and the town's cinema site.

The building is empty and although planning permission was granted to the owners in 2008, no work has started. Serving a CPO – estimated to cost around £40 million – is considered too expensive.

RiverOak, but turned it down.

The reason coming out of the Manston camp for the rejection was that the offer came 'too late,' a reason that was debunked by local MPs, as well as Unite, the union representing the 150 workers who lost their jobs when the site was closed.

**A**ccording to Cllr Johnston, who spoke to Mrs Gloag, the business magnate was unaware of the scale of 'devastation' that the airport closure was bringing to local people, and had been misinformed about the number of staff who had found employment, believing the figure to be higher than it is.

Mrs Gloag's spokesman was unavailable for comment when contacted this week, although she has consistently refused to elaborate on Mrs Gloag's handling of the whole affair.

Following a series of protests, Manston campaigners marched through Margate to the council offices on Wednesday, demonstrating their support for the CPO.

It is not a straightforward decision though. The CPO process is, according to Cllr Johnston, 'long and complicated'.

She explained: "Anyone who has gone through the CPO process knows it is not an easy one.

"We have spoken to solicitors, and will need an expert to look at everything.

"The CPO option is not a new one to us – we were considering it last week before the airport closed, and wondering if it was a possibility.

"However, you need to be very mindful that it will be a long, drawn out process. You will need the funding to buy it. We would need support. It's very early days, but we are looking into it.

"Running an airport is not easy, but we are looking at all our options."

In terms of the use of public funding, Cllr Johnston says she is supportive of the airport. She sees it as an important part of the local footprint, and one that could play such a huge role in the area's economic regeneration, that it is worth considering all options in order to save it.

One of the major concerns surrounding the land is that there is a possibility to build housing there. Cllr Johnston has very publicly said that she would not be in support of this.

In terms of the airport retaining its status as a cargo hub, all may not be lost.

A spokesperson for RiverOak, the company that made the previous bids for Manston, has said it remains committed to the airport, a sentiment which can offer some support to the pro-Manston lobby, but for now the future of the airport remains in doubt.



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Europe went to the polls on Thursday – but it will

# Is sun set to rise on a new era in British politics as Ukip prepares to celebrate glory in Euro election?

**B** RITAIN'S three biggest political parties are expected to be asking themselves some serious questions tomorrow morning after taking a pasting from Ukip in the European elections.

The right wing party is expected to come top across the country and in the south east, knocking the Tories into second place and wiping out the Liberal Democrats.

Europe went to the polls on Thursday. In the south east region there are 10 Euro MP seats up for grabs – all determined by proportional representation.

Which, for this region, means for every 10 per cent of the vote secured, a party will see one of the candidates elected. Results are expected by 1am tomorrow morning.

Political pundit and LBC presenter Iain Dale, who lives in Pembury, predicts Ukip would win four seats, the Conservatives three, Labour two and the Green Party one.

This is in sharp contrast to the 2009 results, in the final year of the Labour Government, which saw the Conservatives first with four seats, Ukip and the Liberal Democrats second with two seats each, and Labour and the Green Party with one.

Ukip member Marta Andreasen subsequently defected to the Tories, leaving Nigel Farage, the party leader who lives in Westerham, as the region's sole Ukip MEP.

If Mr Dale's predictions are correct, Mr Farage will see Janice Atkinson, Diane James and Ray Finch join him on the Brussels benches.

Tories Dan Hannan, Nirj Deva and Richard Ashworth will keep their seats, but James Elles and Mrs Andreasen would be out.

Labour's Peter Skinner, who is standing down anyway, would give way to Anneliese Dodds and John Howarth, and Keith Taylor would stay as the Green Party's sole member.

But the big shock would be the loss of both

Liberal Democrat seats. Sharon Bowles is not standing again in this election but Mr Dale predicted that even number one candidate Catherine Bearder, who was elected in 2009, would not get in.

"The big quandary in terms of a prediction here is what will happen to the Lib Dem vote, and do they have a possibility of retaining one of their current two seats," Mr Dale wrote on his blog.

"If they are to win anywhere, it could well be in the south. But surely Labour has to improve on its single seat last time.

"It is, of course, possible for the Conservatives to be reduced to two seats, but that would be pretty seismic in their strongest area outside East Anglia.

"Since the Greens have won a seat at each election since 1999 there is no reason to think they won't repeat their performance this time."

A national Survation poll in the days prior to election day put Ukip on 32 per cent, Labour on 27 per cent, the Conservatives on 23 per cent, the Liberal Democrats on nine per cent and others – including the Green Party – on 11 per cent.

John Fitzgibbon, lecturer in politics and international relations at Canterbury Christ Church University, said he broadly agreed with Mr Dale's predictions but that the elections were very difficult to call.

"I think Ukip could overtake the Tories, and it will be a surprise if they don't do as well as the polls suggest," he said.

"If the Tories hold onto their majority that will be a big story. It depends who turned out to vote on the day, but it is going to be the protest voters who do that. It's really hard to know. You can't really call anything."

It's not unknown for people to announce their intention to vote for a non mainstream party, but

**“ Ukip could overtake the Tories, and it will be a surprise if they don't do as well as the polls suggest... If the Tories hold onto their majority that will be a big story ”**

**John Fitzgibbon,**  
Politics and International Relations lecturer



KEA



not be until Monday the results are confirmed. **Sarah Linney** looks ahead at the expected outcome



**TENTERHOOKS:** Above (from left) Lib Dem Catherine Bearder, Tory Richard Ashworth, the Green's Keith Taylor, Ukip's Nigel Farage (top) and Janice Atkinson (bottom left)

lose heart when they get into the ballot box and plump for the devil they know after all.

But Dr Fitzgibbon says that while that might happen in some cases, if anything Ukip may well do even better than the polls suggest.

"A lot of times the reverse happens – people say they would never vote for Ukip, because they are worried people will think they are racist, and then vote for Ukip," he explained.

"Some of the polls before the last European elections had Ukip underrepresented by 15 per cent. You just have to trust that the polls are right. All the polls are saying they are slightly ahead and if you admit you are voting Ukip to a pollster then you are quite motivated."

He pointed to the 1982 elections for the governor of California, in which Democrat Tom Bradley, who was black, was ahead in the polls, but lost to Republican George Deukmejian, who was white.

The result was attributed to people saying they would vote for Mr Bradley even if they weren't planning to, to ensure they didn't come across as racist.

"When it's a sensitive question, people will give whatever the politically correct answer is," Dr Fitzgibbon explained.

But he said the Liberal Democrats, whose popularity has suffered while they have been in coalition with the Tories, should prepare them-

selves for the worst – and for the ramifications to be felt right at the top of the party.

"The opinion polls are not looking good for them. At most they will get one seat in the south east," Dr Fitzgibbon said.

"They are trying to go for the whole pro European Union vote, and that might be the only way; if a lot of people switch to them on those grounds.

"If they end up with no MEPs in the south east that's a very worrying sign for them. They then have to ask bigger questions about where they are as a party and there will be more pressure for Nick Clegg to resign."

**A**t the last European election in 2009 turnout was a miserable 34.7 per cent.

Mr Dale predicted that it could top 40 per cent this time – although whether that should be seen as positive when it still means that fewer than half those eligible to vote turned out is questionable.

The 2010 General Election, in contrast, saw a turnout of some 65 per cent.

However, he added that "the odds on this happening are probably less than 50-50" and Dr Fitzgibbon predicted that it would not increase at all, despite an apparent surge of interest in the elections.

"Most people don't follow politics all the time,

and the economy is in a worse state than in 2009, so people are more despondent and more alienated from politics," he said.

"People get involved in politics if they feel there's something there that they can fight for, that they can change things. Membership of political parties was extremely high in the 1980s because people were really polarised and really involved. And when Barack Obama was elected in the United States, people thought 'here's a chance for change'.

"In the 1980s, whether the Tories or Labour won made a huge difference. Now it won't really make a difference whether it's Labour or the Conservatives. There are more significant issues to be worried about."

And according to Dr Fitzgibbon, the rise in

Ukip's popularity has more to do with people's disaffection than a violent antipathy towards the European Union or immigrants.

"To a degree it's anti-immigration and anti-EU, but in my opinion it's really an anti-politics vote, an anti-elitist vote," he said.

"People are sick of the whole system. They are looking at David Cameron, Nick Clegg and Ed Miliband and there seems to be no choice.

"Professional politicians come along, go to Oxford, join a party and you don't know who they are for.

"People think that the mainstream leaders don't identify with them and they vote Ukip because they're different. People think they're like

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## Polling predictions from the political parties...

### Conservatives



LOYAL Conservative voters won't desert the party and will put their cross in the blue box as they have always done, the leader of Tunbridge Wells council predicts.

David Jukes said that despite the polls, he did not think that the Tories would lose a significant number of votes to Ukip.

"It's only my opinion, and of course I don't know, but doubt it. I think you might be surprised and the Tories won't lose any seats," Cllr Jukes said.

"The number of people who vote in European elections is fairly low traditionally, and Ukip voters are a mixture of the fringes of disillusioned Tories and disillusioned Labour. I think the hard-core Conservative voters will remain Conservative.

"We have had polls before and they are seldom right. You only have to look at the papers on a Saturday that tell you which horse is going to win the next race - how many times do they win?"

### Lib Dems



THE Liberal Democrats might come off badly in these elections - but it won't affect them long-term, according to Liberal Democrat councillor Alex Perkins.

"At every election we always

hear that the Liberal Democrats are going to lose seats or do badly or fall apart," said Cllr Perkins, who leads the Lib Dems on Canterbury City Council.

"You get people who are protest voters in between elections, and before we were in government the Liberal Democrats were often the place that those protest voters went.

"It is true that there is an anti-EU ticket which is being exploited by Ukip to their advantage, and I don't doubt for a moment that they will do better than they should do.

"I genuinely believe that this is just one of those moments where people in this country don't see Europe and the European elections as important and they will deposit their anti-establishment votes with Ukip."

### Labour



LABOUR should be able to win a second seat in the south east and might even win three if it is lucky, county councillor Mike Eddy predicted.

"We should be going up to two seats - that's what we normally expect and last time we just missed it by a few hundred votes. Three would be marvellous," he said.

"It's going to be interesting to see what happens with Ukip and the Tories - who comes out on top

in a place like the south east, which is generally so solidly Conservative.

"There are very definitely more Tory voters than left-wingers defecting to Ukip, but there are one or two left-wingers who may see Ukip as a protest vote because they are saying what they want to hear on issues to do with immigration.

"I think we will see the Liberal Democrats slumping very much.

"I hope they don't get any seats, but they might scrape home with just one - the Greens may well outdo them.

"The European elections are invariably strange because you can get all sorts of weird and wonderful parties coming out of the woodwork and people will vote for them."

### Ukip



DESPITE widespread predictions of Ukip success, Nigel Farage appeared not to want to count his chickens when Kent on Sunday spoke to him on the eve of the polls opening.

Beyond describing himself as "optimistic", the party leader said he did not want to say anything and stated that he was in a "self-imposed purdah".

"I want to wait for the results," he said unassumingly.

### « PAGE 15

them and not part of the political elite.

"People are anti-elitist across Europe, across the world, because politics is so distant now. There's a big disconnect between the elite and the public across the world and Ukip is a British variant of that."

But he says this doesn't necessarily translate into more support for minor parties such as the English Democrats, YOURvoice and the Socialist Party of Great Britain - though

it may well help the Green Party.

"That's the nature of the British electoral system. There is not a history in Britain of voting for independents," Dr Fitzgibbon explained.

"People need to just focus on one group, not split the vote. And they will vote for the person they recognise, who is on TV.

"But the Green Party are making a big push to get the anti-establishment vote, and one poll showed them overtaking the Lib Dems, so I think they will do quite well - I could see a few more Green MEPs coming along."

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# Fresh push to fire gun sports back onto rural agenda



**L**IKE many other people who spend much of their time in our towns and cities, it is easy to over-look the more traditional activities of the countryside; the past-times which have been passed down through generations and rooted in a simpler way of life.

As a consequence, most countryside-based activities are something of an anathema for myself and plenty of others like me.

But gun sports continue to grow in popularity – morphing from their hunting roots into a more recreational device.

There remains, however, a growing school of thought that allowing guns to be used in such a way provides a level of acceptability for a weapon which has brought so much misery to man and animal-kind alike over the years. It is perhaps the sport's biggest hurdle.

The Countryside Alliance – a group which claims to represent rural issues and which was formed to fight head-on the introduction of the hunting ban – is leading a renewed push to raise interest in gun sports; National Shooting Week gets under way this weekend.

Its aim is to give the public the chance to try their hands at the sports of clay pigeon and target shooting – tied to the upcoming Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, where both will be high profile events.

In order to see what the fuss is about, I was despatched to the pretty village of Brenchley, near Tunbridge Wells.

There I was to be offered a lesson from the West Kent Shooting School – an independent and award-winning school for those wishing to try their hands at clay-pigeon shooting.

Traditionally considered the preserve of the upper-classes, it conjures up images of tweed, and ruddy-faced aristocrats in wax jackets. I did see an immense amount of tweed. The school shop had a special on full ensembles.

There are plenty of topics which divide opinion like few others. The role of the Countryside Alliance is one, and the use of firearms another. Put them together, then, and you have much to discuss. We sent reporter **Maria Chiorando** to Brenchley to experience both – ahead of National Shooting Week which gets under way this weekend...



However, the 20-acre grounds of the school are relaxed and friendly, with no sense of overt snobism.

It must also be noted how beautifully manicured the lawns are, and how friendly the staff. It's an easy place to wile away an afternoon.

Shooting is an important part of the UK's economy, contributing some £1.6 billion annually. This is of particular relevance in rural areas, where it creates employment opportunities and keeps the local economy ticking over.

Kent has a long tradition of shoot-

**“ You don't have to be born and bred on an estate – I don't mean a council estate down the road, I mean a 600-acre estate – to start shooting. It's open to everyone ”**

**Michelle Nudds,**  
Countryside Alliance.

ing, with pheasant shoots available at multiple locations in the county, offering around 200 'shooting days' a year.

Increasingly popular with corporate clients, the sport sparks as much anger towards it as it does excitement, with animal welfare groups opposed to the concept of hunting as entertainment.

**H**owever, as National Shooting Week (NSW) is for novices, the focus is on non-live quarry. This means it's far more accessible and people of all

backgrounds are encouraged to pick up a gun.

Michelle Nudds is south east regional director of the Countryside Alliance.

To an extent she faces a dilemma. Her organisation's support and promotion of hunting in a variety of different forms links shooting with a frequently inhumane manner with which to kill wild animals.

In a society increasingly concerned with animal welfare, creating a clear divide between shooting clay disks in the sky, and shooting a flying bird, is sometimes difficult to discern with the Countryside Alliance in the mix.

So first let's tackle those perceptions of who takes part in gun sports.

“You don't have to be born and bred on an estate – I don't mean a council estate down the road, I mean a 600-acre estate – to start shooting,” she explains.

“It is open to everyone.”

Perhaps unsurprisingly, it remains a heavily male-dominated activity. This is one aspect that NSW looks to redress.

According to Ms Nudds: “If you go to a clay shooting ground, out of 100 men, you'll probably have about five women.

“This is because clay clubs tend to be on a Sunday morning, and women are busy doing the Sunday roast.

“However, as a lady, if you're feeling like you want to take on the boys you can go into what's called an open class, which is mixed. Equally, you can just stay in the women's group.”

There were no difficult equality issues for me to tackle. As this was my first lesson, I was tutored one-on-one. I was put through my safety paces under the superlative tutelage of instructor Richard Abrahams, who walked me through some basic gun etiquette, including the correct way to hold a gun when not shooting, in what's called the 't-position' with an open chamber.

He also taught me how to store a



gun in a rack and always move the gun with its barrels pointing away from people.

We then had to work out my eye dominance. Using a series of tests, we established my left eye was dominant. This means I had to shut that eye, as I am right-handed, when shooting. As some people are unable to shut one eye at a time, they can use tape or block one lens of their glasses.

**W**hen the time came for me to handle the gun, Mr Abrahams walked me through the process carefully. The primary thing we looked at was the stance.

"It's important not to do what I call the 'John Wayne' which is what a lot of people automatically do when they are about to fire a gun," he said. "You actually just want to stand with your feet about a shoulder width apart."

Being right handed, that's the hand I used for the trigger. My left foot was the 'lead foot' which was slightly fur-

**“ We were born out of the ban on hunting, but shooting is an important pastime. We try and educate about shooting live quarry and fishing ”**

**Michelle Nudds,**  
On the formation of the alliance



**SHOTGUN TRAINING:** National Shooting Week is giving everyone the chance to try their hand at shooting

ther forward than my 'back foot' which I pivoted slightly.

"Your belt buckle should point at what you're shooting," Mr Abrahams told me. I was clearly underdressed for the occasion, belt-buckle-less as I was, but it was a useful analogy.

With my stance and direction sorted, it was time to look at my 'gun mount'. The butt of the gun should sit in the 'pocket' of your shoulder, with your cheek on the handle of the weapon. This can be tricky to get

right at first, as you don't want your cheek bone resting on the gun handle, or 'comb', as the recoil could cause some damage.

Finally, Mr Abrahams also provided glasses and ear plugs. The safety aspect was paramount; it is clearly something the instructors take very seriously.

I, however, just wanted the firearm in my hands. I wanted to experience the sheer power of blasting inanimate objects into smithereens. And after

simulating some shots with an empty gun, that's exactly what I did. My first couple of attempts were duffs, but then I came up with the goods. I can see how it becomes quite addictive; it is extremely satisfying to hit the target.

**T**he shotgun we were using was a 20-bore Beretta. It was surprisingly heavy, but comfortable to hold. It is mid-sized gun that's popular with shoot-



**ALLIANCE:** Michelle Nudds

ers of a smaller frame size. It is also favoured due to its minimum amount of recoil.

Standing in what's known as the 'cage' area, I was told where to expect the clay pigeons to come from. Mr Abrahams instructed me not to look at the barrel of the gun, but to watch some trees on the horizon, then follow the trajectory of the clay pigeon.

Because you move as one with the gun, as your eye follows the target, the gun rises up towards it. The target rises in an arc, and reaches a crescendo, where it hovers for a second before it falls back to earth. I was aiming to hit the clay bird just before it began its descent.

You can either hit the target right in its centre, so it splinters, the shards rotating as they are blasted through the air, or catch an edge.

Not as technically accomplished, but I'm assured that it still counts as a hit in competition.

But while there is no denying there is a satisfaction in blasting disks from

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**INSTRUCTOR:** Richard Abrahams

the sky, there's still that issues with the Countryside Alliance which polarises opinions before a shot is fired.

**W**hile some welcome their work in continuing rural traditions, others see their 'raison d'être' as little more than an excuse to propagate blood sports.

Indeed, a terse moment arose when I asked Ms Nudds about the negative connotations many people associate with the group. "We're not just about fox hunting," she replied.

"Yes we were born out of the ban on hunting, but shooting is an important pastime.

"We try and educate about shooting live quarry and fishing."

One thing the alliance are keen to advertise is that clay pigeon shooting is very accessible to all ages, genders and abilities.

"I've even seen a shooter with one arm," explained Ms Nudds. "I've got someone with Parkinson's disease,

who shakes, but once they get in that cage they don't shake at all. It really is open to everyone."

I asked Ms Nudds if the ultimate aim was to encourage people to hunt game and fowl – it's not an unrealistic leap to make given its history.

She pointed out that, initially, NSW welcomes newcomers to attempt shooting targets, not live quarry. Many of those who take up the activity will continue shooting just targets and clay pigeons.

When I left my lesson, I was handed recipes for game pie, lime roast partridge, and venison lasagne, as well as information about identifying different quarry such as rabbits, fowl and deer and ducks.

I was also told about other shooting initiatives aimed at encouraging women into the sport, such as 'The Shotgun and Chelsea Bun Club' – which describes itself as 'a girls only shooting and tea club'.

Previously very popular with the Women's Institute, it offers ladies a chance to go out with their shot guns then reconvene over cake in the club room afterwards. It's a social event and very much leisure-orientated.

Gillian Lynch, owner of West Kent Shooting School, admits the customer base can be varied. She said: "I like the diversity. We are a shooting school and a place of leisure.

"If you have an hour to spare, just come down and get out of that office.

"Just relax – shooting can be your switch off time."

**■ What do you think of shooting?**  
Share your views and join the debate. Write to: The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. Or email [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk).

## NATIONAL SHOOTING WEEK

NATIONAL Shooting Week (NSW) runs from May 24-31. It is organised by the Countryside Alliance with the backing of the British Shooting Sports Council.

This will be the seventh NSW.

There are more than 60 shooting grounds around the country signed up to the scheme, nine of which are in the south east. It is aimed at people who have never experienced shooting before, with the goal of promoting respect for and understanding of legal firearms and legal airguns.

It enables people to come and have a go at

shooting by offering classes for novices, often at discounted rates.

Barney White Spinner, executive chairman of the Countryside Alliance, said: "National Shooting Week is an important date in the diary and has encouraged thousands of people to take up a new sport over the years.

"Interest in shooting is at a high following our victories at the 2012 Olympics and in the run up to the Commonwealth Games – who knows, we may find a future star at one of our events this year."

Visit [www.nationalshootingweek.co.uk](http://www.nationalshootingweek.co.uk) for details.



## Shooting in numbers:

£1.6bn amount it contributes to UK economy

1,000 shooting clubs in the UK

150,000 regular clay pigeons shooters

50,000 regularly shoot at target ranges

20,000 number of shooters introduced to sport by NSW

12,000 number who remain shooters after the week ends



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drive through europe

# Internet pioneer's prestigious



**HALL OF FAME:** Canterbury Christ Church University's Abhaya Induruwa

**H**E pioneered the internet in Sri Lanka, founded one of the country's computing degrees and now has his eye on bringing the world wide web to its masses.

So it's a fitting reward that university lecturer Abhaya Induruwa has been added to the Internet Hall of Fame – 25 years on from when he first had the idea that would change the country.

Other notables in the hall of fame include Tim Berners-Lee, the inventor of the world wide web, and Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales.

But softly-spoken Dr Induruwa, who is joint acting head of the department of computing at Canterbury Christ Church University, downplays his achievements and says he was only doing what someone else would have thought of anyway.

"If I hadn't started it someone else would have done it in the next 15 minutes," the 63-year-old said.

"I think it was just a case of being in the right place at the right time. But I am happy that Sri Lanka was prepared to listen to me and that we managed to connect and put Sri Lanka on the map."

Dr Induruwa was inducted into the hall of fame last month at a ceremony in Hong Kong, accompanied by his wife Indrani, daughter Sarah and granddaughter Kiara.

He was given the status of Global

Canterbury Christ Church University's Abhaya Induruwa has just been inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame for his pioneering computer work in Sri Lanka, **Sarah Linney** finds out more...

Connector – someone who has made a major contribution to the growth and use of the internet.

The entry states: "Professor Induruwa pioneered academic and research networking and internet deployment in Sri Lanka. His efforts paved the way for the later establishment of commercial internet services in the country."

But, in fact, he was doing groundbreaking work long before then when he founded the department of computer science and engineering at the University of Moratuwa in 1985.

The subject had never been taught in Sri Lanka before and was still relatively new throughout the world.

"The university had a new vice-chancellor in 1983, and we both had the same idea that we should start teaching computing, not just programming," Dr Induruwa recalled.

"Not many places were teaching computer science, even in the developed world. This was 1983."

When he set up the department in January 1985 with 16 students, he immediately ran into a major difficulty – where do you get experts to teach a new subject?

"Recruiting staff was the biggest problem. We didn't have any universities producing computer science or computer science and engineering graduates," Dr Induruwa said.

"The closest we could get was graduates in electronic engineering."

"It was a one-man department for a couple of years. We recruited a few people and sent them abroad for their PhDs."

A government grant for equipment a couple of years later was a huge help and by the end of 1987 the department had its own fully-equipped computer communications laboratory.

It now has about 200 students and 25 members of staff and was the leading school in Google's international Summer of Code competition between 2005 and 2012. The competi-

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# title for connecting Sri Lanka

tion awards stipends to students of up to US\$5,000 for completing free, open-source software coding projects.

Never one to rest on his educational laurels, in 1989 Dr Induruwa came to Keele University in Staffordshire for a sabbatical and it was there that he became familiar with the UK's academic computer network.

All the UK's universities and further and higher education centres, as well as some schools, are connected via a computer network called Janet - Joint Academic Network. Dr Induruwa had the idea of setting up a similar network in Sri Lanka called Learn - the Lanka Experimental Academic and Research Network.

He put his proposal to the government and was given a grant to set the network up in 1992, connecting Sri Lanka's three universities.

The internet was barely in its infancy, but Dr Induruwa could see the way the world was going... even if the government took some persuading.

"There was no world wide web, no smartphones, no internet - but I was dreaming of a research and academic network for the Sri Lankan academic community," he said.

"But the government department in charge of telecommunications thought telephony, not data, was a priority. I had to persuade them to buy three wireless links because we didn't have the landline capacity."

The network provided a webmail



**INTERNET:** Based at Christ Church, Dr Induruwa has more ideas including improving Sri Lanka's cyber security

service for academics and researchers called Learnmail - though by today's standards some aspects were cumbersome.

"We had to use international direct dialling to get our emails. It was very expensive - we couldn't check or send emails more than three times a week," Dr Induruwa recalled.

"It was like sending mail to an isolated island."

In 1995, Sri Lanka became fully connected to the internet, with two companies serving commercial customers and Learn continuing to serve academics, and communications in

the country were revolutionised.

"We had only had Telex. We did not even have fax. A letter would take ten days to get to Europe, and the reply would take another 10 to 15 days," Dr Induruwa explained.

"I wanted a better communications medium for the keen scientists, researchers and academics in my country."

"They realised how advantageous it was to have this electronic system for their research. They could send an email to one of their colleagues in the UK and get a reply - everything is almost instantaneous."



funds for more labs and lecture rooms rather than supporting a wide area network."

Internet access is still limited outside Sri Lanka's big cities - just 18 per cent of the population is connected - and Dr Induruwa says he would now like to help bring the internet to its masses.

"I would like to work on providing easy and cheap access for the large majority of people in the country who do not have internet access," he said.

"For the ordinary man, penetration is not very high. Colombo is very well connected, and outside Colombo there are a few large cities where there are universities, but there are other places where the internet has not reached yet. The government is doing what it can, and there is a charity trying to provide internet access in every village."

He returns to his home country several times a year to teach students at the University of Colombo, where he is a professor, and is thinking of returning to live there when he retires.

"My next idea would be to enhance security awareness. The whole world is having problems with internet security," Dr Induruwa added.

"Canterbury Christ Church is a centre of excellence in cybercrime forensics and education and I am thinking of setting up something similar in Sri Lanka."

"So I have two more ideas to put into practice."



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# The growing importance of county's £6bn rural economy

With agriculture and farming being so vital to county finances, two new schemes will boost both business and jobs, writes **Jamie Weir...**

**K**ENT's rural economy is worth £6billion according to a rural interest group set up to shine a light on the sector.

That's a figure which would make the traditional backbone of our county's economy more powerful than big high street brands such as Marks & Spencer.

The figure was revealed on Thursday at a presentation by Rural plc during its annual meeting at the East Malling Research Centre.

The group, established in 2011 to put a 'tangible' value to the countryside's contribution to the economy, is spearheaded by Hadlow College, near Tonbridge, and Kent County Council.

Since then, it has grown and now includes a number of major names.

Currently, it has seven directors, all of whom have experience in rural areas as well as an understanding of financial matters.

It is chaired by Mike Bax, a former High Sheriff of Kent, and chairman of Kent Wildlife Trust.

Others supporting its mission are Barclays and the South East Local Enterprise Partnership. Both contribute funding and knowledge to help boost the rural sector.

At this week's annual meeting, Rural plc also unveiled a new careers website and app.

The site, [kentruralcareers.com](http://kentruralcareers.com), will allow



**THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND:** Kent's rural economy is valued at some £6bn – making it hugely important to the county's economy as a whole

anyone interested in a rural sector career to search for a vacancy.

When the site launches, Rural plc says it will host over 75 different career paths in the sector, as well as all of the details surrounding that career choice.

For those lacking in qualifications, the site and app will also put them in touch with institutions such as Hadlow who offer training in

their chosen field, or with potential employers who can advise on how to break into different industries. Hadlow College, in particular, has taken on something of a white knight role for the countryside.

Not only does it promote land-management at the college, but it opened a free school last September which incorporated land studies into its timetable, and has been an active supporter of groups such as Produced in Kent, which champions local food and drink providers.

Mark Lumdson-Taylor is Rural plc's human capital director and director of finance and resources at Hadlow College.

He explained: "We have found we need to attract new talent to the sector, so identifying specific options as pathways is crucial to our aims."

"It is particularly exciting this year as we will be able to use the new website and app to show all those interested in developing a career in the rural sector exactly what they need to do, and where they need to go to get the right training to enter their chosen field."

"Obviously, Hadlow is a founding partner of Rural plc; it's in its DNA to offer the right training for individuals in order to meet the needs of the industry."

"The rural sector core asset is its land mass and the significant opportunity to develop and maximise returns validates the base valuation of £6bn. Cash generation and reinvestment into the rural sector are its hallmarks, and with the case studies demonstrated in the second annual report, it clearly shows the potential and opportunity in the sector."

Unsurprisingly, the county council is behind its efforts. Mark Dance is cabinet member for economic development at KCC.

He told KoS this week: "The rural economy is a major part of our business. Rural plc has proven that the jobs and GDP [gross domestic product – the total market value of all services and products] makes the sector one of the major players in the county and let's make sure we never forget that."

**“The rural economy is a major part of our business. Rural plc has proven that the jobs and GDP makes the sector one of the major players in the county”**

**Mark Dance,**  
Economic development at KCC

The group used accountants Chavereys to make the £6bn headline figure, adding the value of our rural economy has grown by more than £500m.

Chairman Mike Bax said of the Rural plc initiative: "Farming and the environment are a single issue. The vast majority of Kent's wildlife is to be found on farmed land which is also delivering food of the highest quality to the nation. We promote these riches and must not allow factions to seek to isolate these two vital components of the Kentish economy."

The county is built upon its agricultural economic roots and continues to be seen as a major player on the national scene.

However, over the years it has found markets squeezed by an influx of cheaper, imported, alternatives and the dominance of the supermarkets, with their bulk buying squeezing producers' profit margins.

It remains determined, therefore, to bolster its strong position.

In the UK as a whole, the UK food chain employs some 400,000 workers and contributes more than £97bn to the nation's economy.

Rural plc says while the food chain is considered an investment opportunity, the actual farming and production of food remains woefully under invested in. An issue the group is keen to flag as a problem given the increasing

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demand for food supplies and an ever increasing global population.

To demonstrate the worth of the sector, the group has introduced a Kent rural share price.

A spokesman explained: "A share price for Rural plc is clearly notional; it is not a listed entity. If we, however, apply the same logic and broadly formulaic principles that values a listed company's shares, then we can establish our own share price.

"In simple terms, a share price reflects an ability to return cash. We know, for example, that gold can only return capital whereas land can return capital and income. So using a hybrid of land values and total income from farming, we can work out a figure.

"And what this tells us is that despite falling incomes our share price keeps growing."

Nick Holmes, the group's finance director told the annual meeting that the share price was important because it would allow investors to get a clear understanding of what they could gain from financing the rural sector.

He said: "If you look at the share price, you will see it is going up steadily. Everybody wants to invest in a sector that sees long term value, and that's really what we have to promote. In our view, our share price will continue to rise.

"Our balance sheet is going through the roof. We have £6bn of net assets, with the core being £5.2bn of land. It's gone up by 12 per cent which means we rank around 60 in the FTSE 100."

The Rural plc report also echoes calls from other countryside groups to ensure land is being used in the best possible way.

It highlights food security as a growing issue in the UK, noting that 60 per cent of the food consumed in the UK was produced here, but that this proportion is diminishing.

It stresses the importance of the traceability of our food, highlighting the horse meat scandal as one of the big reasons for making sure the production chain, from field to fork, is kept as short as possible.

Environmental director for the group is high profile farmer Charles Tassell.

He said: "It's for rural communities really.

"The rural sector underpins village schools, housing, transport and infrastructure, broadband and many other things. They are all influenced by the rural economy and farming is a big part of that. This means it is absolutely crucial that we have a vibrant rural sector, with farmers able to diversify in order to breathe life into the countryside. Keeping the food chain short helps the local economy, whilst ensuring that Kent's public get the best produce possible."

This year, the group has stated it will be working actively to promote investment in the sector.

It will also create a fund – worth £50,000 – to enable small businesses to be supported.

Charles Tassell explained the help that this will provide for small businesses.

He said: "The fund will be critical in playing a part in getting small businesses started in the rural sector. It will enable those businesses which need a leg up, to get financing to take their ideas forward.

"We won't be looking to support the big, established producers, but for any small organisations, we hope this fund will help them enter the sector."

■ **What do you think of the rural economy?**  
Join the debate. Share your views by writing to: **The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. Or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.**



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# Good education primary goal but free school head is happy to break away from tradition

Still a contentious issue for many, the number of free schools in our communities is rising.

**Caroline Read** spoke to Ani Lawrence, head at The Wells Free School in Tunbridge Wells, and finds out why, for this school anyway, families are queuing up to send their children there...

**I**T HASN'T been rated by Ofsted, is currently based in temporary accommodation and it's only seven months old. So why is demand for the new primary school in Tunbridge Wells so high it could fill its Reception class four times over?

Set up under the Government's free school initiative and in response to a shortage of primary school places in the centre of the town, The Wells Free School on Mount Ephraim is now in the final term of its inaugural year.

Operating outside the usual constraints of state-maintained schools and funded directly by central government, the new school has an emphasis on well-being, individual achievement and strong community engagement, with a commitment to small class sizes and offering different hours to its conventional counterparts.

The school's head, Ani Lawrence, says it is already so popular that applications for children to join in September are high.

"Demand has been phenomenal," she explains. "There's a strong call for it but that doesn't mean we're better than anywhere else. There's a strong call for all the primary schools in this area.

"But it has proven popular and that is very

pleasing. The school hasn't been tested; I have no provenance, I can't prove anything. But you know what this school is about when you come in. We have happy parents and happy children.

"We haven't had any concerns raised at all."

Mrs Lawrence, who was previously head of Leigh Primary School near Tonbridge, is keen to explain that while it could break away from the education offered in mainstream schools, they have decided to keep this particular free school as traditional as possible in terms of curriculum.

"It's a bit of a misnomer, free school, to be honest. It gives the impression we're wafting round in kaftans, ringing bells," she said.

"But basically a free school is an academy. It has exactly the same responsibilities and difficulties they have. The only difference between us and the academies we are more familiar with is we were set up from scratch, whereas an academy is a school that converts.

"What potentially could be quite contentious about us is we have the freedom to set our own curriculum. However, we also have to take end of Key Stage tests, we are also subject to Ofsted and we have to do the phonics test in Year One; these are all statutory items.

"So to offer a curriculum that was far removed would be ill-advised. What we've taken the decision to do, knowing that our children will move on to maintained schools when they leave us, is to build a curriculum based around National Curriculum 2014 – which becomes statutory for all maintained schools in September. We've altered it slightly to fit in with the way we teach but English, maths and science are exactly the same."

The other thing free schools are entitled to do – and perhaps the most contentious element of the initiative – is to hire unqualified staff.

But that is something The Wells Free School decided against; in fact even its office manager is a qualified primary teacher.

Set-up by a pro-active group of local parents and teachers, they have positioned the school as a remedy for the shortage of primary spaces, but with an intake of only 24 children in the Reception class it isn't making much of an impact.

The school is currently offering one class each in Reception, Year One and Year Two, but aims to add a year every September until Year Six.

The Wells Free School is clearly appealing to those parents who are willing to think outside the box and to take a chance on an unproven school. And although not marketing itself as an alternative to conventional schools, its differences are also undoubtedly its biggest selling points.

As well as offering small classes and rewriting the curriculum to suit, the other freedom

**“I have two children in this school and, frankly, if it's not good enough for my children then it's not good for any of them. I feel very strongly about that”**

**Ani Lawrence,**  
head teacher at The Wells Free School

## EDUCATION SHAKE-UP

TIGER Primary School in Maidstone, became Kent's first free school in 2012.

It admitted 60 children in both Reception and Year One.

Run by the Future Schools Trust it differs from other local primary schools by offering a focus on Mandarin alongside English and encouraging all children to play a musical instrument.

The school day is mainly from 9am to 3.15pm, but it offers the option of starting at 7.30am and/or finishing at 6pm, a move that was hoped to encourage more working parents.

Hadlow Rural Community School is a secondary free school near Tonbridge which opened in 2013. Working in partnership with Hadlow College and based on its site, the focus of this school, like that of the college, is land based.

Wye School, near Ashford, opened in 2013. For children age 11-16, it is run in partnership with United Learning, one of the country's largest academy chains.

It's opening, however, had a knock-on effect to schools in the town, some of which saw in-takes dramatically lowered.

Trinity School in Sevenoaks is one of the more controversial free schools. A Christian secondary school, its ethos is centred around the religion.

There are two more free schools opening in Kent this September.

They are the Inspire Special Free School in Medway, a secondary school for children with special needs, and Jubilee Primary School in Maidstone – to be sponsored by the Jubilee Church and "will be a mainstream primary school with a faith ethos". Several more free schools are planned across the county.

the school enjoys is the ability to set its own school hours and term dates.

"All maintained schools could now make these changes," Mrs Lawrence explained. "But for an established school it takes an awful lot of consultation and planning to change what's already in place. We're in the privileged position of being able to start from scratch."

The Wells Free School runs from 8am to 2.30pm.

"That was a decision made by the teaching staff. We've got a lot of experience between us and we know very young children seem to work better early in the morning. Our day is the same length as a normal school but finishes earlier.

"That means parents, or whoever is picking up the children, can have some meaningful time with them before bed.

"We felt very strongly that some extra family time was extremely important. It seems to be working very well. And we also miss the worst of the traffic, which with a town centre school, we felt was very important."

And while the school has the same number of weeks holiday per year as an average state



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Picture: CLARE EDMOND

**STARTING BLOCK:** Currently head teacher Ani Lawrence, right, and her staff at The Wells Free School are only teaching 24 Reception-age children from its site at the old Kent and Sussex Hospital

maintained school, it has bravely chosen to break its terms up more evenly, giving two-week holidays for most half terms and four weeks over the summer.

Mrs Lawrence said: "All our holidays, with the exception of one, align at some point with the Kent term dates so it shouldn't worry parents with children at other schools too much.

"What that also means is families can take off-season holidays.

"I think in coming years we expect that to have a huge impact in the number of parents taking their children out of school term time for holidays.

"They're not supposed to, of course, but it doesn't stop some people."

**A**s a mother of four children herself, Mrs Lawrence has taken the planning of the new school very personally.

"We take the responsibility of having these children in our care extremely seriously, to the extent that several of us have our own children here.

"I have two children in this school and, frankly, if it's not good enough for my children then it's not good for any of them. I feel very strongly about that."

But although the school seems to be flourishing, like many free schools just starting up, it is still housed in temporary accommodation and will be until at least September 2015.

On the site of the old Kent and Sussex Hospital, a block, formerly the neuro rehabilitation ward, was converted last year and although Mrs Lawrence says it's ideal for them at the moment it lacks enough space as it grows each year and it doesn't have any kitchen facilities.

"We'll have a kitchen when the new building is finished," said Mrs Lawrence.

"It's packed lunches at the moment but we're looking at catering companies as a way of getting food into the school because in September all infants will be entitled to free school meals."

Critics might argue that with such a small intake and no possibility of being expanded due to its location, The Wells Free School is hardly easing the over-subscription crisis in Tunbridge Wells.

But Mrs Lawrence argues that while it doesn't solve the wider problem, the Culverden area of Tunbridge Wells was

**“ The free schools are all performing well in Kent but then they should do. They have the luxury of smaller classes and are incredibly well resourced ”**

**Peter Read,**  
Independent education adviser

previously "a black hole" with no primary school directly serving it.

The school is, however, part of the Royal Wells Park development, which replaces the old hospital, where Berkeley Homes is currently constructing nearly 200 new homes.

Effectively the school is part of the infrastructure for the estate.

"That is a matter that needed addressing," Mrs Lawrence said.

"I think at the moment our demographic is very mixed, which did surprise me. I think one thing we do need to be very aware of is that, as the building site arises around us, potentially our catchment will shrink.

"What we don't want is to end up with a ghettoised situation. We will be taking steps to ensure that doesn't happen."

Berkeley Homes is contributing £1.479 million to the construction of the new school, which the company described as the "first developer-led free school in the country", as part of its legal agreement with the council to re-develop the site.

Without this financial input it would have been more difficult to secure funding. Although the Government pays a certain amount towards it, a partner is necessary for most free schools – often private companies or trusts.

They have not been without their critics, either.

In 2010, Kent County Council leader Paul Carter criticised funding around free schools, saying he was supportive of more choice but concerned about the impact on other schools' funding.

And he's far from alone in what is an ever-evolving education scene in the county, as academies and free schools blend with traditional comprehensives and grammars.

One complaint frequently made is the more which pull away from local authority control, the less funding there is for those who remain.

It is an argument Peter Read, a former head teacher and the man behind the Kent Independent Education Advice website, agrees with.

He has mixed feelings about the free school initiative. It's not that he dislikes the schools themselves, he just believes the money that government is ploughing into them could be better spent on upgrading and expanding existing mainstream schools.

Mr Read said: "The bottom line is KCC is not allowed to build their own schools so they've got to make provision somehow. There is a need and free schools and academies are the only way forward. The logic of smaller classes sounds wonderful; I only wish other state schools could have the resources to do the same.

"The free schools are all performing well in Kent but then they should do. They have the luxury of smaller classes and are incredibly well resourced."

Not that it's all been plain sailing. A free school in Crawley recently became the first of its kind in the country to be shut down.

The Discovery Free School, one of the first to open in 2011, had funding by the Department of Education (DfE) withdrawn due to poor standards.

In a statement about its decision the DfE said most free schools were performing well and that 77 per cent of them were rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted, but that it would not hesitate to intervene and take swift action if children were being denied the education they deserved.

"The best thing about our school is that it's new, not that it's a free school," said Mrs Lawrence.

"Starting it off from scratch and getting the teachers on board early on means we have spent a lot of time talking about what we believe in and how we're going to put that belief into practice."

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**Britelite Windows has been granted the prestigious Which? Trusted Trader status in recognition of its outstanding commitment to quality and service in the home improvements sector.**

Which? (perhaps best known for testing products such as washing machines, cars, tools and the like), originally set up the Trusted Trader Scheme to help consumers identify reputable companies that can be trusted to install, on time and to the highest possible standard.

All Which? Trusted Traders undergo rigorous, independent checks before being given the award. When you see the Which? Trusted Trader logo, you know you're in safe hands.

Britelite Windows has always prided itself on customer service and quality of product. For many years we have enjoyed great reviews from satisfied customers across the South East of England, commending the quality of our products, the can-do attitude of our engineers, and the clear and easy-to-understand manner in which we talk to our customers. We already hold the BSI Kitemark for installation of windows and doors; we are a FENSA registered company which recognises the competency of our ability to install windows which offers consumer protection to homeowners and gives confidence in service and installations.

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Britelite Windows has a rich history stemming back 44 years, Britelite has always been at the forefront of all new innovations since they started fitting windows. John Baxter, Chairman and Founder of Britelite Windows says:

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The Triple A-rated service that has remained at the heart of Britelite's ethos throughout our long history includes the following benefits: A-rated energy efficient windows are fitted as standard and feature the top security SAC shootbolt 10-point locking system, which has achieved the coveted Secure by Design standard from the Police force.

Our A-rated fitters are all fully trained to an NVQ level 2 standard - an important component of our BSI Kitemark accreditation. A unique Gold Seal installation service, combined with an open and honest price policy that includes £1,000 anti-intrusion cover, makes Britelite an A-rated company. ■

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Our windows are a beautiful addition to your home. They're safe, they're secure, and they're fantastic at keeping the warmth in. What's more, they will even add value to your property when the time comes to sell. But that's not all; with an enormous range of colours, styles, shapes and sizes to choose from, you're sure to find the a style that perfectly suits your home.

For many years we have fitted A-rated glass as standard, ensuring all our customers have the opportunity to save on their annual energy bills. In February 2013 we introduced an even greener solution: triple glazed windows. Boasting more than 40% better insulation than the standard double glazed window, superior sound reducing properties and security features that will make even the most hardened burglar shy away, Britelite triple glazing has quickly become the new standard in home improvements.

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If you are looking for a first-class product, by a first class installation company, then look no further. Our long list of credentials now includes the prestigious Which? Trusted Trader scheme, meaning you're in good hands when the time comes to upgrade your home.

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Pictures: CHATHAM HISTORIC DOCKYARD TRUST

**VISIT:** King George V raises morale by inspecting Royal Navy Ratings at the barracks of HMS Pembroke, Chatham, in 1918 (left and right) and women paint workers pictured in 1916-19 (centre)

# Navy's vital war role on sea and land

Dockyard exhibition reveals stories of those who lived through First World War, writes **Chris Britcher**

**A** MAJOR exhibition highlighting the vital role of the Royal Navy during the First World War opens this summer at the Historic Dockyard Chatham.

Organised to coincide with the centenary of the start of the war, it will focus on the remarkable role played by the former Navy dockyard, its workers and the Chatham division of the Royal Navy.

Alex Patterson, collections and galleries manager at the popular her-

itage site, said: "The First World War is often thought of in terms of mainly trench warfare.

"However, this was not the case. Britain's war was fought on a number of fronts – the war at sea playing a major role.

"This is not just a story of those on the Home Front or on the ships but of those men of the Royal Navy who also served on land. The war became all-encompassing with no one left untouched."

Visitors will learn about the or-

deals suffered by these men and women as war is seen through the eyes of those who lived through it.

Four long years of valour, loss and sacrifice are depicted using first-hand accounts, personal effects and poignant items including paintings, pictures and poetry.

All are drawn from the national collections of the Imperial War Museum and the National Maritime Museum, complemented with previously unseen items from the dockyard's own collection.

A spokesman for the exhibition added: "Visitors will see the havoc wreaked by German submarines and mines in the twisted metal remains and battle-scarred ships of the fleet and learn of the new repair and maintenance challenges this presented the dockyard with.

"They will discover how the losses of Chatham division ships affected lives back home and how technologies were quickly developed to fight against a new type of warfare challenging a Navy that had not been seriously

threatened in home waters since the end of the Napoleonic Wars."

The exhibition includes a host of fascinating photographs, including those pictured here, of King George V making a visit to the dockyard.

Running from July 26 until November 30, Valour, Loss & Sacrifice: Chatham, The Royal Navy and the War at Sea is showing in No. 1 Smithery: The Gallery at the Historic Dockyard Chatham and is included in the normal dockyard annual admission ticket.



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# Conservation team buzzing after release scheme sees return of rare bumblebees after 26-year absence

International project to bring insect back into county shows signs of success, writes **Caroline Read**

**D**ECLINE of the nation's bees has been well documented over the past few decades, but it's not all bad news for our honey-making insects.

Luckily they have a formidable team of allies on their side.

And on Monday the RSPB reserve in Dungeness saw the latest attempt by experts to reintroduce a species of bumblebee that had previously been declared extinct in this country.

It's the third successive year that a group of rare short-haired bumblebees has been released in the Romney Marsh.

Transported from Sweden, it is hoped Kent will be the first county to see this important pollinator gain a foothold again.

The species disappeared from the UK in 1988, having been in decline for 60 years, and was officially declared extinct in 2000.

Loss of suitable habitat has been identified as the cause of the problem.

The scheme is a collaboration between Natural England, the RSPB, the Bumblebee Conservation Trust and bee conservation specialists Hymettus, with the Royal Holloway University of London screening the imported queen bees for disease before they are released.

It was given the green light after years of working with local farmers in Dungeness and Romney Marsh to create the ideal wildflower habitat for bumblebees in the area, with an initial pilot reintroduction two years ago.

Last year's release provided the first tantalising indication of success when worker short-haired bumblebees were spotted at the site later in the year, but as yet no queens have been recorded.

It is thought they struggled in the cold, wet conditions last spring. However, the team behind the project hope this year they will start to see signs of a self-sustaining population.

Nikki Gammans, project officer, said: "The signs are good – there are lots of wild flowers coming into bloom thanks to the work of the farming community and gardeners.

"We have already spotted other very rare species in the area including the ruderal bumblebee and the red-shanked carder bee.

"With short-haired bumblebee workers being spotted last year and a new batch going out, there are high hopes for the future of the species.

"We managed to collect the queens in just two-and-a-half days in Sweden and the warm spring has brought the release date forward by two weeks.

"A lot of people are following the fortunes of the bumblebees now both in Kent, and further afield in the UK and in Sweden, and it's fantastic talk-

ing to those people who care so much about our threatened bumblebees."

She added: "One thing I always tell people is that there is something everyone can do to help bees bounce back in the UK.

"Several bee species are in real trouble and have been in decline for many years, but if we all make an effort to plant the right native nectar-rich plants in our gardens then we can make a big difference."

Of our 25 native bumblebee species, seven are in decline and two have become extinct, including the short-haired bumblebee, but the reintroduction project offers hope for the insects across the UK.

Last year's State Of Nature report, published by 25 leading conservation groups, highlighted the short-haired bumblebee project.

The project has reported five threatened species, which includes England's rarest species the shrill carder bee, have all increased their geographic range in the Romney Marsh area, after decades of decline.

But experts warn that just because some bees are being reintroduced, we shouldn't become complacent.

Britain has lost 97 per cent of its flowering meadows in the last 60 years and bees continue to suffer as a consequence.

Bees are a vital pollinator of our food crops and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs National Ecosystem Assessment 2011, estimated that pollinating insects are worth the equivalent of £430 million a year – what it would cost to pollinate our food crops if they disappeared altogether.

Local entomology expert Ian Beavis, from Tunbridge Wells Museum, has been following the project since its inception and attended the release last week.

He said: "Having followed the project from the beginning – with all its ups and downs including having to switch the source of queens from New Zealand to Sweden – it is great to see progress being made and to be a part of one of the actual releases.

"Kent has always had a rich bumblebee fauna, and Dungeness has had a reputation as being the bumblebee capital of Britain. Sadly, the county has not escaped the disastrous decline of so many of our species that are adapted for very specific habitats.

"Nikki Gammans and her team have done a great job in getting local landowners enthusiastic about bee conservation and increasing the amount of flower-rich grassland.

"It would be wonderful to see the short-haired bumblebee well-established and returning to other parts of Kent where they used to live."



**HIGH HOPES:** Farmers in Dungeness and Romney Marsh created habitat suitable for the short-haired bumblebee

## Want to make your garden a 'honey trap'?

BUMBLEBEES such as the shrill, the brown-banded and the moss carder bees emerge from hibernation in mid to late May.

At this time of year it is important to have spring plants which are rich in pollen and nectar so the queens can replenish their energy after a winter without food.

However, before you head to your nearest garden centre, it's important to remember not all flowers are suitable for our humble bumblebee.

Many bedding plants, which have been bred to produce bright blooms, offer little or no nectar for bees and other pollinators like

butterflies. Others are simply the wrong shape and they can't access the nectar.

To help long-tongued bumblebees, such as the shrill, the brown-banded and the moss carder bees, go for plants with tubular flowers such as aquilegia, foxglove and monkshood.

Short-tongued bumblebees prefer open flowers such as raspberry, blackberry, white clover, thyme and small-flowered varieties of sweetpea.

Other bumblebee favourites include catmint, viper's bugloss, devil's bit scabious, bird's foot trefoil and knapweed, along with

allium, flowering garden herbs and lavender.

The greater the number of suitable flowering plants in your garden the better but as a rule of thumb, you should aim for at least two kinds of bee-friendly plant for each flowering period.

For late-emerging species, it is important to have plants which are in flower into October.

You can find out how bee-friendly your garden is by trying the Bee Kind tool on the Bumblebee Conservation Trust website.

You can also get information on which plants to buy: [www.bumblebeeconservation.org](http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org)



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# Town parade will pay tribute to a rather special champion

The only man to capture world titles on both two and four wheels is being honoured with a drive-past of his vehicles, reports **Chris Britcher**

**H**E WAS a superstar of a different era; a man capable of beating all before him on both two wheels and four – and this Monday he will celebrate a remarkable career.

John Surtees turned 80 in February – and for almost 60 years has based his motorsport activity in Edenbridge.

And in the same year which celebrates the 50th anniversary of him lifting the Formula One title, he will take part in a special parade through the town.

The Edenbridge Fun Day is an annual event and this year will see a special parade by the motorsport legend.

Mr Surtees will be driving the Ferrari 158 he won the 1964 Formula One world title in down the High Street, leading a parade which will also include a number of other notable names from the sport.

Scott Malvern has been crowned UK Formula Renault champion and British Formula Ford and Eurocup champion; and at 25 is tipped as one of British racing's rising stars.

He will appear alongside Robbie Kerr, former British Formula 3 champion and the man who represented Great Britain in the country versus country series A1GP.

In addition to the famous names, there will be a host of cars and bikes from Team Surtees which gained worldwide success winning American and British championships with its

Formula 5000 cars and the European Formula 2 Championship in 1972.

Peter Kingham, head of Edenbridge Chamber of Commerce which organises the event, said: "We are very much looking forward to celebrating those two anniversaries with him at the fun day, as well as raising funds for our chosen charities."

The Edenbridge Fun Day will raise funds for charities including the Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance and the Henry Surtees Foundation.

The foundation was set up by John Surtees following the tragic death of his son Henry while competing in a Formula 2 race in 2009 at Brands Hatch. He was just 18.

The vehicles will be based at the original building that housed Team Surtees, where the cars were manufactured and built predominantly by skilled residents.

Two local businesses, Bradford Electrical and Whitmore's car dealership, have traded from this base in recent years at the north end of town.

The parade will start at 3pm following an Aston Martin DB8 course car – John Surtees will lead the procession in the Ferrari 158 car along closed roads through Edenbridge before returning to Station Road.



**SOUND:** Edenbridge will rumble with motorsport engines as it celebrates the achievements of John Surtees (above)



## CLASSICS JOINING THE PARADE...

- **Ferrari 158:** Actual car John Surtees won his 1964 Formula One Driver's World Championship racing title in.
- **TS7 Formula 1 car:** The first F1 car built by Team Surtees at its Edenbridge base. Had its first race in the British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch in 1970.
- **TS14 Formula 1 car:** The first car to be introduced to the new safety regulations in 1972 and was driven by Mike Hailwood and Carlos Pace setting lap records in the German and Austrian Grand Prix.
- **TS15:** Two-litre Formula 2 car built in 1973 which finished second in the championship.
- **1960 MV Agusta four-cylinder GP motorcycle:** John Surtees won seven world motorcycle championships riding for MV Agusta and six Isle of Man TTs.
- **1954 BMW Rennsport twin-cylinder motorcycle:** John Surtees raced for the factory team at the Nurburgring in 1955.
- **500cc 1949 Vincent Grey Flash motorcycle:** Built by John in 1949 using a large number of parts from the original machine that he built in 1950 while working as an apprentice at the Vincent Company.

## The racing inspiration whose feats may never be equalled

IT is a feat unlikely ever to be matched again – dominating a sport in two different formats and both requiring vastly different skills.

But after winning the 500cc world championship title on two wheels on four occasions, he then swapped bikes for cars and proved his need for speed was second to none as he raced to the 1964 Formula One title.

John Surtees started competing as a sidecar passenger for his father – although in their debut race together the duo were disqualified after crossing the finish line first because John was too young to compete within the rules.

He was not put off and after a spell riding Vincent, Norton and NSU machines winning British titles and his first GP he moved to MV Augusta winning the 500cc World Championship in 1956 – the first of seven world titles he secured in just five years and which resulted in the award of an MBE.



**RACER:** John Surtees, aged 80, with his son Henry, who was killed at just 18

By 1960, Surtees was competing on two and four wheels – winning two world championships on bikes and finishing second in the

Formula 1 British Grand Prix.

He moved to Ferrari for 1963 and the following year he won the world championship.

He survived a terrible crash at the Canadian GP for sports cars in 1965.

It left one side of him shorter than the other as doctors attempted to repair the injuries that could have killed him.

But like so many motorsport legends, a brush with death was to be expected. It certainly didn't deter him. The following year he was back driving and winning further titles.

He retired from racing in 1972.

He continued to manage Team Surtees before it collapsed in 1978 due to a lack of sponsorship.

His career in motorsport continued, however, and he remains a popular and inspiring figure.

Following the death of Australian Sir Jack Brabham this week at the age of 88, Mr Surtees is currently the oldest surviving Formula One World Champion.

He lives just over the Surrey border in Lingfield but retains close ties with Edenbridge and is also a

common sight at Brands Hatch in West Kingsdown.

His life has not been without tragedy, though. His son Henry was emerging as a talented racer in his own right and was competing for the Formula 2 title in 2009.

However, as he took part in a race at Brands Hatch, tragedy struck. The wheel of another car came off and bounced across the track, hitting Henry Surtees in the following car, killing him instantly.

Following his death, his father established the Henry Surtees Foundation to assist people with brain or physical injuries and provide education and training associated with motorsport-related programmes in technology, engineering and road safety instruction.

■ **A new book, John Surtees: My Incredible Life on Two and Four Wheels,** is released on June 19. Royalties will go to the Henry Surtees Foundation.



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# Letting kids play outside and

For 50 years, the Bowles Outdoor Centre near Tunbridge Wells has had a simple aim 'to get kids away from the synthetic and back to the authentic'.

**Caroline Read** went to find out more...

**E**NCOURAGING young people to get involved in outdoor activities has been a recurring topic hitting news headlines in recent years.

As our society moves towards wrapping up youngsters in cotton wool amid fears that some harm may come to them – and a change in social standards that seems to now pour scorn on those who allow their children greater freedoms – the debate rages that, as a consequence, our children are missing out on key lessons.

Not the sort taught in the classroom but those of exploring their natural environment, of interacting with nature, or playing with friends in the fresh air, rather than simply plugging in the latest video game.

Most recently, celebrity adventurers like Bear Grylls and Steve Backshall have told children to limit the time they spend looking at computer screens and start climbing trees again instead.

Finally, however, it seems there may be a change of heart.

Not that you have to tell any of this to Richard Hardwick, director of the Bowles Outdoor Centre near Tunbridge Wells. It's something he and his predecessors have been telling people for 50 years.

"It's difficult not to use words like magic when you talk about Bowles," he says. "It's perfect for bringing young people here because they get a chance to really get away from their frenetic lifestyles. It's the great fight that everybody's fighting at the moment – to get kids away from the synthetic and back to the authentic."

"And that's what we really do. What we've always done."

There are no computer games here. Youngsters on a residential activity week at Bowles have the fresh air, the woods and the natural sandstone rocks for entertainment.

Staffed by professional outdoor instructors, its ethos is an old-fashioned one, but it still successfully reaches modern-day children.

"We're about trying to give kids the confidence and the skills to take responsibility for themselves."

"There's a fear and a lack of trust that pervades society now and people find it hard to trust their kids to do the kinds of outdoor things we all grew up doing."

Set against some of the rock formations that are scattered across the area, making it perfect for rock climbing, the centre also boasts an indoor swimming pool for canoeing and raft-building, as well as two dry-ski slopes for skiing and snowboarding.

In an idyllic woodland setting just on the Kent and Sussex border, this is a place where you really can get away from it all and throw yourself into an adventure.

The centre is run by the Bowles Rocks Trust, a charity set up in 1964 by founder John Walters.

Building on his initial idea to create what he called a 'rock-climbing gymnasium', the men and women who have worked at the centre over the decades have all been committed to showing children there is life outside their classroom and bedrooms.

"What Bowles does is timeless," says Mr Hardwick. "And although everybody knows there are pressures to remain indoors, there are still so many people who see the value in what we offer."

"Schools recognise it's worthwhile to take time away from SATS, papers and screens and give kids time to just be themselves and learn about each other and about what they're capable of."

The centre works in four main areas: with schools who send classes of children – usually in Years 4, 5 and 6 – on a residential basis; with groups like young carers who might not have otherwise been given the opportunity; with disabled people; and with businesses using the activities for team bonding. There are also climbing courses available and the centre offers birthday activity parties and school holiday courses.

With a capacity for 140 people to sleep, eat and have adventures on site, the centre can be a busy place. Schools and groups from all over Kent and beyond into Sussex and Surrey have established a good relationship with the centre and return year after year.

"We have great fun working with groups of young carers in particular because they're so mature, but they don't get a chance to have a break and get away from things. So groups like that are fantastic."

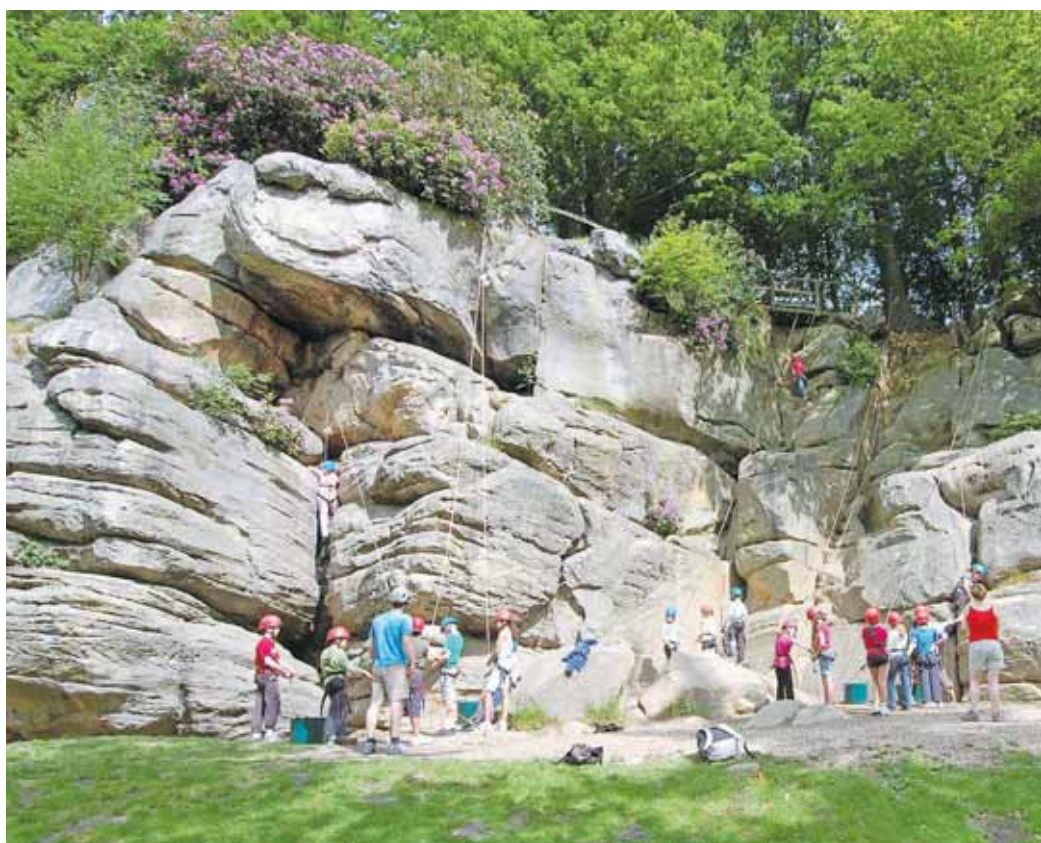
"A local special needs school came and did an Easter egg hunt here in April and went sledging afterwards. That was just an extra event that we did just because we thought it would be a nice thing to do."

"They can gain so much from just a day here – you can imagine what a difference a week makes."

The growth of Bowles has been or-

**“ There’s a fear and a lack of trust that pervades society and people find it hard to trust kids to do the kinds of outdoor things we grew up doing ”**

**Richard Hardwick,**  
Bowles Outdoor Centre director



## EMPOWER RATHER THAN COSSET...

ADVENTURER Bear Grylls ignited the debate once again earlier this month when he was reported to say children should be allowed to play with knives to "empower" them.

He said it would allow them to learn how to do something dangerous but do it safely.

In an interview for the Radio Times he said: "Sometimes in life we get cut. My six-year-old recently cut himself on a knife and came in with blood pouring everywhere, but, you know what? He's not cut himself again."

"He learned how to handle a knife."

"When I say to budding adventurers 'Listen – a blunt penknife is a dangerous knife. Make sure it's really sharp', the kids' faces light up. Like all

kids, they want a mega-sharp penknife – great, but teach them to respect it and use it properly.

"Two hundred years ago, I doubt there was a six-year-old in Britain who couldn't start a fire with a knife and a flint."

"It would be like a six-year-old today using a fork to pick up a fish-finger. Kids were taught to be resourceful and practical."

"There is risk everywhere, even when you go out on the street. So if you teach kids to dodge risk, you totally disempower them."

"You empower kids by teaching them how to do something dangerous, but how to do it safely."



ganic since those early days of Mr Walters's 'rock-climbing gymnasium'.

He bought the land with a deposit of just £1 and set about training youngsters how to scramble up the rocks.

One of only a handful of natural outdoor rock-climbing centres in the country, it particularly stands out because it boasts natural sandstone – said to be perfect for climbing because it's porous and quick-drying.

"John Walters died earlier this year, so sadly he won't see the centre turn 50 in June," says Mr Hardwick.

"But he wrote a book about setting Bowles up. He was so passionate. He was an engineer, but he sank all of his money and spare time into Bowles."

"Without him there's no chance the place would ever have existed. To

create a charity like this is not on anybody's agenda these days."

**R**ight from those early days Mr Walters was determined to help young people to develop their confidence using the outdoors.

But when he bought the land it was just some rocks and woodland.

Over the next few years buildings were erected and in the late 1970s the two ski slopes were added, the pool coming later in 1988.

The trust is lucky enough to have a very high-profile patron in the shape of the Duke of Edinburgh, who has long been involved in encouraging young people to take up outdoor activities.

He visits the site quite frequently and Mr Hardwick hopes he'll have time to visit at some point later in the year to celebrate the 50th anniversary.

"In our 50th year we're planning 50 challenges," he says. "We've got 25 of those sewn up already, so we're looking for another 25 ideas: things like mountain-bike challenges, having a fun run, those sorts of things."

"It gets on the list if it's challenging and it allows us to have some fun, raise some money and raise our profile. We're hoping to raise £50,000 in our 50th year."

The main celebration will be an open day held on June 7, inviting local people to come along and try their hand at an activity and having a party in the evening for staff old and new.



# learn about being responsible



**OUTDOOR FUN:** The Bowles Outdoor Centre gives youngsters the chance to play outside, challenge themselves and take responsibility for their actions

"We'll be celebrating the last 50 years and hopefully getting ready for the next 50," says Mr Hardwick.

It certainly seems likely with all the interest recently shown in a return to a natural childhood.

Mr Hardwick added: "I think something is definitely happening, whether it's a reaction to all the screen time and the compartmentalisation of life. It's healthy. The Government really would ignore it at its peril.

"I hope they keep faith because if you're not investing in young people then you're just picking up the pieces later. The cost will be much greater.

"It's not always appreciated, the impact this sort of thing has on young

lives, because it's immeasurable."

■ If you want to get involved, have any ideas for the 50 challenges or have any old photos of visits to Bowles, contact the centre at [www.bowles.ac](http://www.bowles.ac) or 01892 665665.

## Advertiser's Announcement

# How former students are changing the future of East Kent College



East Kent College holds a special place in the hearts of many local people. Whether studying for a place at university, embarking on an apprenticeship or simply learning for the fun of it, fond memories of East Kent College are plentiful across Thanet.

Yet those happy times don't have to be a distant memory for former students, thanks to the East Kent College Alumni Association.

Launched last year, the Alumni Association brings together past and present students in an online community aimed at building connections and preparing the next generation for the real world.

Any former student of East Kent College – or as it was previously known, Thanet College or Thanet Technical College – is being encouraged to sign up, get involved and enjoy the exclusive benefits that come with being an

Alumni Association member.

"We have high ambitions for our alumni and students and our commitment is supporting them to ensure they fulfil their full potential," said Graham Razey, East Kent College Principal.

"Whether you are interested in getting help developing your own skills further, or sharing your knowledge and expertise to help others progress with their own future, the Alumni Association is the perfect platform to get started."

As well as exclusive discounts in the College's restaurant and salon, members of the Alumni Association can also enjoy access to a growing online network, College events and a wealth of professional advice and guidance – no matter where they are in their career.

Yet it is the opportunity to

shape the future of East Kent College and its students that is perhaps the most fulfilling benefit for alumni.

Giving a guest lecture, running a student workshop, holding a Q&A session... there are all sorts of ways for alumni to take an active role in the College's commitment to students. And many alumni have already done just that.

Take former Performing Arts student Kyle Simmons. Now a successful actor, musician and producer, Kyle returned to the College recently to speak to current students about his glistening career.

The lecture and Q&A session was a huge success, with Performing Arts lecturer Lee McQueen praising Kyle and the Alumni Association for introducing a real-world perspective to students.

"It was very worthwhile and really gave the students an

insight into what it might be like working in the industry," he said.

"I thought Kyle was very easy to talk to and he answered the students' questions with ease. The Q&A session gave the students ownership of the session which was a major benefit."

Whatever the motivation for joining the East Kent College Alumni Association – be it to find old friends, make new ones, get some help or give some advice – it's clear that alumni are key to the future of East Kent College.

To become part of this growing community visit [alumni.eastkent.ac.uk](http://alumni.eastkent.ac.uk) or search for the East Kent College Alumni Association on LinkedIn, Facebook or Twitter.





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**SAD SMILES?** Eric Chappell's (inset) comedy classic centred on the relationship between landlord Rigsby and his assortment of hapless tenants

## The damp is still rising for Rigsby and lonely tenants

**A**S the creator of ITV's most (only?) memorable comedy, Eric Chappell might be forgiven for wallowing in the glorious memory of it all.

Instead, he says, his time writing *Rising Damp* "seems rather remote" now. Nevertheless, it's a success story that won't go away and next month a stage adaption of Chappell's masterpiece comes to the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells.

For those unfortunate enough not to have seen the Yorkshire Television production, which ran to four series from 1974-78, *Rising Damp* was the downbeat tale of a grubby skinflint landlord, Rupert Rigsby, and his three longstanding tenants, Alan Guy Moore, Philip Smith and Ruth Jones (the unforgettable Miss Jones).

They were a hapless bunch but shared an ultimately warm intimacy despite the tensions between Rigsby and the rest.

They were joined by a succession of other tenants, who often lasted no longer than a single episode but on whom the story would focus in a brief flash of notoriety.

The longevity of *Rising Damp*, which evolved from Chappell's play *The Banana Box*, was testament to its popularity, but it was a struggle

Writer Eric Chappell talks to **David Mairs** about one of the most popular comedies to have graced our TV screens and the characters who made it the phenomenon it was

to have it adopted by a television company.

"It kept getting rejected to start with, but then Yorkshire TV saw the play and decided to take it on. The problem was they were going to do *The Squirrels* [another Chappell series, run by ATV] and they didn't want to do two at the same time."

Once that hurdle had been crossed, however, there was no stopping *Rising Damp*, the title *The Banana Box* having been ditched by Chappell shortly before the show hit the nation's TV screens.

The rapport between Leonard Rossiter (Rigsby), Don Warrington (Philip) and Frances de la Tour (Miss Jones) had already been established on stage, while it was strengthened further by the addition for the TV series of Richard Beckinsale, who played Alan.

All melded together wonderfully, but it was Rossiter's performance as Rigsby on which the show's success ultimately hung.

"Len was a winner – we knew we'd got the right man the minute he walked on stage," said Chappell. "People presented Len in all sorts of guises, but this was his role."

"I didn't know I had the stamina for a situation comedy – and sometimes still wonder – and often

**“We told stories. It wasn't too topical and the stories were about characters that never date.”**

wish Len was here."

Rossiter, who died 30 years ago this October, had a reputation for being a bit of a stickler on set. It's a

perception that Chappell does not dispute, although his admiration for the man is obvious.

"He was a tough old bird but fiercely loyal to the show. If there was anyone he thought might spoil or damage it in some way, he would be very beady with them."

"It is a strange thing about situation comedies – people would often handle the script like a stick of dynamite, but he would say 'No, you should say it like that'. I would then object 'But that's how I wrote it!'"

"He just came up with the goods and worked well off the page. We were damn lucky with the people we had – Len had to be the driving force, though"

Chappell's affection for the cast members shines through and he chuckled warmly as he spoke about Beckinsale: "He wasn't very happy at playing the young innocent – he would say 'I'm 30, married and got a child!'"

"I would say 'Don't worry, there's time enough, but tragically there wasn't' [Beckinsale died at the age of 31]."

Such was the joy of watching *Rising Damp*, and such has been its continuing appeal, that it's easy to believe the act of writing it must

**Continued on page 41 »**

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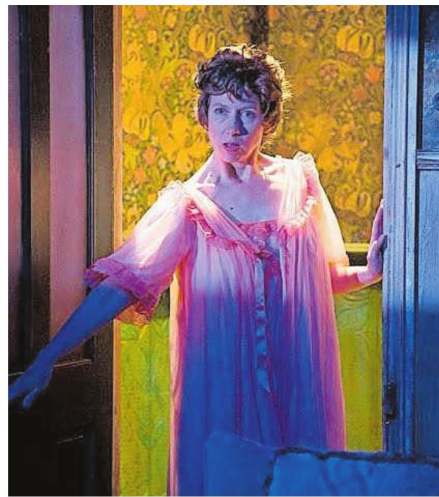
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**REPRISE OF A CLASSIC:** Tenants Philip and Alan, played by Chris Charles and Paul Morse; the lonely Miss Jones played by Airie Scott; Paul Morse captures the look of Richard Beckinsale

## « Continued from page 39

have come easily. That, however, was far from the case: "It was a hard time for me. There was a time I threw down the pen and thought I couldn't carry on. I'd been an auditor and then I was full-time writing The Squirrels and Rising Damp.

"I was doing two series at the same time and could see the time running out. I had to get four shows done in two weeks – it was ludicrous and I told them I didn't think I would get them done, so they sent the actors on holiday and told them to come back in a month. That way we got it done."

Initially, Chappell was "a secret writer" plying his trade while still

doing the auditing work. Incredibly, his employers had still to twig the talent in their midst by the time The Banana Box had made its way to the stage. Suffice to say, the situation had its moments...

Before Rossiter, Wilfred Brambell had played the role of Rooksby (a name that itself evolved into Rigsby when a genuine landlord named Rooksby, from Scarborough, threatened legal action).

"There was quite a lot of advertising of this show and I was in Leicester with my boss when a bus came past with Wilfred Brambell and the show on the side – I had to turn him round so he didn't see it.

"It only began to come out when

someone in our road said 'We have a playwright living among us – guess who it is'. They all thought it was just a dangerous hobby, but within a few months things began to happen and I quit the job after a year."

Chappell had initially turned his pen to novels and, in the manner that successful people can mock those areas in which they achieve less, is happy to admit that they were not productions of joy, let alone quality.

"When I look at my novels, they were terrible," he said. "But I could write dialogue and dramatic scenes – you have to do what you're good at.

"I never question how it happened," he said. "However, what

younger people are amazed about is that I was 37 years old when I started to have my work performed. They're pleased to know I was so old and that there's always still time to be successful."

And what was core to that success?

"We told stories – each half-hour was a story in itself. It wasn't too topical and the stories were about characters that never date – they could be written today. That was the thing about Shakespeare – he didn't have to make up his plots as he got them all from history.

"The first four or five episodes of Rising Damp were from the play – that was easy – but after that

it felt like a bit of a slog."

Perhaps it's a function of the subject matter, but there was farce almost from the word go with the production, that Scarborough landlord objecting after Rossiter had said in its promotion "If you like Hitler, you'll like Rooksby".

Chappell hit upon the final name courtesy of a flash of inspiration.

"I was going up the stairs with Len at the studio when I just exclaimed 'What about Rising Damp!'. That was it."

Rigsby's distrust, or worse, of other nationalities and races would today not make it out of the cutting room.

Continued on page 42 »

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« Continued from page 41

but was this really an issue of racism being portrayed as humour?

"Len never thought of it that way," said Chappell. "I meant this to be a leading character with a certain style of repartee and witticisms. I didn't see that anyone would object."

"When I started my office life in the 50s, people were coming back from abroad with prejudices about foreign travel – and there had been the war, of course, with all the stuff about Anzio, Italy and so on."

Either way, Rigsby was a sorry character, as, in their own disparate ways, were all of them.

"They were lonely characters," said Chappell. "It's about loneliness – Rigsby couldn't leave them alone and they couldn't leave each other alone."

The concept of loneliness grew as the series developed rather than as the starting premise to the whole project, while Philip's character came from a story that Chappell had read about someone who had pretended to be a prince and was treated with a fawning deference by hotel staff and others only too keen to doff the cap.

"He admitted to not being a prince in the play, but I don't think that in



**THE CLASSIC POSE:** Stephen Chapman stars as Rigsby, a man obsessed with Miss Jones and jealous of his tenants

the series it was ever said," said Chappell, who omitted to mention that the revelation was also made in

**“It's about loneliness – Rigsby couldn't leave them alone and they couldn't leave each other alone”**

the film *Rising Damp*, a misjudged (to be polite) venture that was little more than a cobbling together of tales from the TV series.

"It was commissioned quickly and I wrote it in a few days. I lifted a lot of the TV stories into the film – I wasn't proud of that. If I had had more time, I would have written a better film."

Doubtless, as a record of some 200 situation comedies might suggest, but theatre is Chappell's first love.

"I have written 25 plays – it's a well-kept secret," he said, his voice laden with irony. "The West End is a private party and the critics are the bouncers. My plays are shown widely in places like Sweden and Paris, where they don't have the same prejudice about situation comedy. I was a theatre writer first and

situation comedy writer second."

So we're now full circle, with the play about to take to the road. What will lovers of the TV classic make of it?

"It's based on the original, but with hindsight and learning things from the series there are some extra goodies in there. I think it's better than when it was in the West End."

**■ Rising Damp is at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, from Monday to Wednesday, June 2-4, at 7.30pm (Wednesday matinee 2.30pm). Tickets cost from £20.50-£25.50 (booking fees apply). Call 01892 530613 or visit [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).**

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Frontman of hit group Wet Wet Wet is enjoying his role in classic stage musical, discovers **David Mairs**

# Not a dry eye in the house for Che Marti

Picture: KEITH PATTISON

It has been lauded as one of the greatest pieces of musical theatre to have graced our stages and the momentum of Evita shows no sign of slowing as it comes to Kent this summer.

The epic show rolls into The Orchard Theatre, Dartford, at the start of next month and stays there for the thick end of a week, returning to the county for a similarly lengthy run at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, at the end of June into the first week of July.

If our musical-loving folk have read their reviews, it is likely both venues will be packed for this, the last complete collaboration between lyricist Tim Rice and composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and presented here by Bill Kenwright.

Evita, of course, tells the story of Eva Duarte, who rose from humble origins to become the wife of Argentinian president Juan Perón.

As Eva Perón, the First Lady gathered huge wealth and power, while her popularity with her country's people was such that she was regarded by them as their spiritual leader.

Star turn in the show is Wet Wet Wet lead singer Marti Pellow, who plays Che, a character who effectively narrates events as the voice of the people.

Pellow told Kent on Sunday: "Although I've worked with Tim Rice before, it's my first Andrew Lloyd Webber show and it's nice to get asked to do this.

"There's this great public accessibility with Evita that appeals to me, so when I had the chance to get involved there was never any thought other than taking it on.

"We do eight shows a week, but a real job would kill me... I'm being a bit flippant.

"The live environment changes for me and this became part of my career when I wasn't expecting it."



Nevertheless, musical theatre is not new to Pellow, who played the part of Billy Flynn in the show of the same name.

"I'd been doing a night with Roger Daltrey and Pete Townsend [for the Teenage Cancer Trust] and was asked if I'd like to do the role of Billy Flynn. I read the score and loved it," he said.

Clearly, there's no pigeonholing Pellow and, equally as obviously, he loves what he does.

"Sometimes we go out under the radar and just make music," he said.

"It's great I'm afforded the opportunity to do it by the fan base.

"There are so many genres and my genres unfold all the time – anything from Jah Wobble to Frank Sinatra to The Clash and the Pistols."

The tastes are wide, as, the army of fans will clamour to tell you, is the talent.

■ Evita is at The Orchard



**DON'T CRY FOR HIM:** Marti Pellow plays the role of Che in the stage hit Evita

Theatre, Dartford, from Monday to Saturday, June 2-7, at 7.30pm (2.30pm matinees on Wednesday and Saturday). Tickets are priced from £20-£42 (booking fees apply). Phone 01322 220000 or visit [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk).

■ The show is then at the Assembly

Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, from Monday, June 30, to Saturday, July 5, at 7.30pm (2.30pm matinees on Wednesday and Saturday). Tickets are priced from £24.50-£38.50 (booking fees apply). Phone 01892 530613 or alternatively visit [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).

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KENT LIFE

## Pull of childhood memory saw Outlaw take the bait

**N**ATHAN Outlaw fell hook, line and sinker for fish during his childhood. Growing up in Maidstone, he spent weekends on the beaches of the Kentish coast, watching his grandad tuck into jellied eels and going fishing off piers.

After catering college and a spell at a London hotel, he was keen to indulge his passion for creatures of the deep (and shallows) and moved to Cornwall to work at Rick Stein's celebrated Seafood Restaurant in Padstow.

He now has a handful of restaurants to his name – two in Rock, Cornwall (one of which, Restaurant Nathan Outlaw, has two Michelin stars), one in Port Isaac (Outlaw's Fish Kitchen) – and a consultancy in London at The Capital Hotel.

He has also written two books about fish – the second of which, Nathan Outlaw's Fish Kitchen, was published this month – but his enthusiasm shows no signs of waning.

"I have nothing against meat. I enjoy cooking that as well, but for me the actual subject of seafood is fantastic," said the 36-year-old, whose father Clive is also a chef.

"I'm quite friendly with a lot of fishermen and they fascinate me – I could listen to their stories forever.

"And the actual industry itself, with the sustainability and all that side of things, I love it."

Despite being an island nation, we lack confidence when it comes to cooking fish, he says.

"The biggest thing I always tell people is, don't cook your fish until you've got everything else ready," he said.

"Have all your vegetables cooked, your sauce – all that will take much longer than a piece of fish. Most pieces of fish will cook much quicker than a microwave meal. In three or four minutes, it's cooked."

And don't be put off if your first attempt fails: "It's practise, practise, practise. The more you cook fish and the more you handle fish, the better you're going to get at it."

Outlaw met his wife, Rachel, when she was working as a waitress at Stein's restaurant. They married 13 years ago and have two children, Jacob, 11, and Jessica, nine.

"My wife is Cornish, my kids are Cornish, the dog's Cornish – I'm the only outsider," he said.

Home, in the village of St Minver near Rock, sounds pretty idyllic.

"I can just see the sea from my house if I stand on my tiptoes," said Outlaw. "It's about five minutes from any of the beaches."

Not that he has much time for lounging:

"I'm lucky I've got a wife who's understanding and comes from the industry. Because if my wife wasn't from the industry, she probably wouldn't be my wife any more!"

He's cooked in Rick Stein's restaurant and is now owner of a Michelin-star eatery, but Nathan Outlaw's passion for cooking stems from Kent, as **Jeananne Craig** found out



**SOMETHING FISHY:** Nathan Outlaw now lives in Cornwall but his love of fish came from living in Kent



# Warm welcome and hearty food help Mum and Dad wind down

## The Cock Inn

**Location:** Boughton Monchelsea

By **Tim Miles**

**S**OMETIMES... easy is best. Sometimes, usually at the end of the working week, it's time to let someone else take the strain.

So there are times when you bung the kids in the back of the car and say "Right you lot, we're going to the pub for supper".

At times like this you need your banker. That place you know is not going to let you down; the place that does not have a problem with the kids – as long as they are reasonably well behaved – that serves a good pint, has a decent wine list and will

have something on its menu to satisfy the discerning eight-year- and the sulky six-year-old, who cannot remember from one week to the next what she likes and what she doesn't.

The Cock Inn at Boughton Monchelsea is just such a place.

It looks like a pub should, with its beams, inglenooks and walls dotted with beer-related objects.

My son particularly likes the pithy quotes chalked on the beams in the pub's ceiling as well as "the beer mats and the metal horse badge things by the fireplace".

We were welcomed at the bar by

the friendly staff and shown to a table nearby – there is a separate restaurant, but as it was early evening Mum and Dad felt like being sat near other 'big' people.

The menu is as you would expect, with something to catch the eye of most diners and there is a specials board, too. Children's meals are smaller versions of the adult meals and are priced at £6.

My son went for the junior fish and chips but opted to forgo the caramelised lemon and tartare sauce. In his words his meal was "bigger than I expected and the fish was flaky and moist, the batter crispy and chips were crispy, too".

My daughter chose the children's staple of jacket potato, baked beans and "lots of cheese, please". Apart from the fact it arrived at the table "too hot to eat", she seemed quite happy with it.

The only-slightly-more-grown-ups went for a 'meal deal' of two ribeye steaks with chips, grilled tomato, mushroom and beer-battered onion rings plus a bottle of house Shiraz for £40.

The steaks were tasty and – more importantly – cooked as requested; the chips and onion rings were crispy; and the wine hit the spot and helped usher in the weekend.

My food-critic son rounded off his

meal with a junior, frothy latte, while my daughter seemingly fell face-first into a generous chocolate pudding, although my wife assures me she really was trying to eat it.

To conclude: the waiting and bar staff were friendly and very attentive, the food hearty and filling, and the atmosphere welcoming. Add to that: Mum relaxed, therefore Dad the same. Kids full, content and ready for bed. And it's job done.

Our total bill including drinks, main courses and desserts was £80.

■ **The Cock Inn**  
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Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances, and a daytime phone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit all letters.

## Riders have right to enjoy roads, too

OH dear. Your correspondent Graham Stevens from Faversham had clearly overdosed on angry pills before writing to complain about cyclists enjoying their right to ride on public roads. He was so busy getting angry he forgot to check the key facts.

Firstly, it is not a legal requirement for cyclists to ride in single file, although the Highway Code does state that they should not ride more than two abreast and recommends single file under certain circumstances. Graham may also have failed to consider that, in the case of a large group of cyclists, riding double-file actually makes it easier for a motorist to overtake, as the column of riders is halved.

Secondly, it is not an invasion of privacy to film people without their permission – it is certainly not illegal to do so provided they are in public.

He is also very keen for cyclists to use the bus on environmental grounds yet shows no inclination to travel by public transport himself.

Or how's this for an idea? He too could get out on a bike – it's great exercise and a fantastic way to enjoy our beautiful countryside without doing irreparable damage to the environment.

A terrific way to work off stress, too – I find that since I started cycling to anger-management classes I no longer need them.

**Matt Evans, Tunbridge Wells**

## Ill-informed and exaggerated view

GRAHAM Stevens of Faversham asks for a response to his ill-informed and exaggerated complaint about cyclists on Kent roads during the week.

I am both a keen cyclist and a motorist and have for the last six weeks been on a break between jobs, allowing me to join a small number of other cyclists on the roads during the week.

Nearly all my mid-week cycling colleagues are self-employed or are retired. We rarely see other cyclists and actively seek less busy roads due to the often negligent and sometimes wilfully offensive driving of some motorists.

I have read the Highway Code, as Rule 66 states that you should never cycle more than two abreast. Cycling for pleasure, for fitness and as a source of national pride – we can boast two Tour de France winners and numerous world and Olympic champions – has never enjoyed a higher profile; however, few parents

## LETTER OF THE WEEK



## Hospice holds public meetings on future

EARLIER this month, Pilgrims Hospice announced plans to transfer more of its support into the community so that it can give patients and families, living across east Kent, greater access to all of the services which we provide.

Reaction to our announcement shows just how much the local community cares about Pilgrims and we can assure you that we all share that passion.

We also know that while we have been able to provide this support for many it is still only a small proportion of those who need it, with the majority (almost 90 per cent) dying in hospital, care homes or their own home.

In many cases the need for support develops rapidly and in a way that means the person has become too poorly to be moved to a hospice bed and for others their choice is to remain at home in familiar surroundings. In fact, studies show that while almost 70 per cent of people would prefer to die at home, sadly only about 20 per cent achieve that aim.

So we need to be responsive to these needs and change the way in which we deliver care to ensure that, while we have enough hospice beds to serve east Kent,

which we are fully committed to providing, we also provide a greater level of hospice care out into the community.

That is the challenge Pilgrims is taking up – to deliver the same care a patient would receive in a hospice bed but out to a number of locations across the community when and where required.

It is not that our services would be diminished. On the contrary, they would be increased by bringing support to more patients and their families where they want it and at the time they need it. In that way we can widen the choice for patients and reach more people.

We recognise that change can be difficult to contemplate, which is why Pilgrims is setting up a series of meetings where we can discuss with you our plans, explain why we believe they are needed, listen to your concerns and ensure that everyone has a good understanding of what has been proposed.

Meeting will allow us to listen to your views, answer your questions and discuss your concerns. We are organising venues and dates, starting week commencing May 26, and shall let you know these as soon as possible. Do please join us.

**Graham Stevens, Faversham**

would allow their children to cycle to school for fear of dangerous driving.

In a country on the verge of an obesity epidemic, perhaps motorists should show consideration for people actively trying to improve their health.

The short delay I experience, as a driver, due to a cyclist is nothing compared with having to pay higher

taxes to finance treatment of the feckless and unfit filling our hospitals.

**James Amy, Rochester**

## Selective over the Highway Code

IN response to Graham Stevens's prominent letter, I would say that Mr

Stevens is guilty of selective quotation from the Highway Code that he suggests we inwardly digest.

His letter reads "It [the Highway Code] states cyclists should ride in single file on the road, not two abreast".

In fact, the relevant section in full and in context is: "You should never ride more than two abreast, and ride in single file on narrow or busy roads and when riding round bends".

And note this is a "should", not "must", and is not legal requirement. Point of order aside, how about a little less hostility all round?

**Chris Thompson, Strood**

## Warning signs to a deserted Thanet

IF Manston Airport remains shut for good, there might as well be a notice, eastbound, on the Thanet Way, warning unsuspecting motorists of an approaching desert that Thanet will fast become.

I don't blame Ann Gloag, Infratil or Wiggins for the impending doom, but Thanet council.

It is plain a sanction for night flights would give a commercial venture at Manston Airport, and Thanet, a reasonable chance for shared benefit.

Why hasn't Thanet council eased the way for an entrepreneur to, hopefully, make a success of Manston?

I will not accept people living under the flight path as an excuse.

If one chooses to live on a flood plain, or near a nuclear plant, railway, motorway or airport, one should first consider the possibilities.

**NC Weeks, via email**

## Were flights in the way of Boris's bid?

SO you think closing Manston will stop aircraft noise? Think again because it's bound to get a lot noisier when the estuary airport gets going.

I don't know if anyone has taken a serious look at the flight paths of the aircraft during take off and landing – and despite extensive documentation on the internet very little information is available – but it looks to me as though Manston flight operations were very much in the way and had to be removed quickly and quietly for Boris Johnson's bid to proceed.

So, if you're shouting hoorah because KLM has pulled out, you might want to think twice before backing the total closure of Manston and wonder why Ann Gloag is so against a deal which would retain it.

**Denis Hiblen, Whitstable**

## KOS 10 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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Archant's mission statement is: "We bring together motivated buyers and sellers through the creation of unique and compelling content and community expertise." This is summed up in the strapline 'Inspiring Communities'.

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- 8) Highlight topical issues of concern to people living in the county.
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## Hambrook Marshes

by **David Lewis**  
from **Canterbury**

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## Women Seeking

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**mydate24**

**TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL PEOPLE. SEND: CHAT2 TO : 80098 (T&C'S BELOW)**

**JAN** 5ft 6ins, dark hair/eyes, nice smile, likes music, travel, countryside, animals, employed, OHAC, looking for companionship with similar lonely heart. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411865

**CHRISTINA** curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 410127

**SARAH** 25 petite slim attractive blonde student, enjoys keeping fit, looking good, socialising, going out, being a mum WLTW similar fun genuine guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411537

**JULIE** attractive outgoing female with a very young attitude, loves running, living life, travel, WLTW someone special to make my life complete, hope you're there. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411513

**SUSIE** married, adventurous/dominant lady, 38yrs, seeks discreet man any age/area for no strings fun. Tel: 0905 002 1945 Box 412285

**LINDA** 37, green eyes, attractive, bubbly size 12, enjoys cosy nights in, text chats, seeking tall fun guy for meals out, pubs, clubs and spending quality times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411033

**SUSAN** seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779

**SLIM** petite, attractive brunette, 56, British/Russian origin, excellent cook/home maker, seeks cultured male for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412129

**FREYA** 33 6ft blonde, loves dancing and have a good time, employed, own home, one son, seeking similar laidback guy/ideal for dates, chats and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412045

**ANNA** busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366019

**MARILYN** really nice curvy tall female, loves romantic walks, cosy nights in, quality times, looking for nice male to spend time and fall in love with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411871

**33YR** old sick of being single working mum, OHAC, likes the simple things in life, looking for romantic, honest guy with GSOH for cosy nights in and fun nights out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411887

**CINDY** 31 attractive, size 12 brown eyed blonde, new to this but sick of passing up potential suit mate so thought I'd give it a go. ACA Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411873

**64YR** old lady, seeking male for friendship, companionship, outings and interesting conversation. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411975

**CAROLINE** 39yr old pretty blonde looking for handsome caring man to put the sparkle back into my life and make each other feel special. Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411891

**SAM** 35yrs, own business, sexy, loves dressing up and married, seeks discreet man for casual meetings. Can travel anywhere. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box 408297

**PLACE YOUR AD BY TEXT**

**Simply Text: REG** followed by your **FIRST NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, AREA and YOUR ADVERT (max 155 characters)** and send to **80098**

**FREE (Standard Network rates apply)**

**MELANIE** tall curvy attractive bubbly female who loves meals out, cosy nights in with a nice wine, walking, seeks professional male with outgoing GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411509

**BUSTY** Caribbean lady who loves music, dance and singing, looking for nice older guy for mutual adult no strings fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410305

**RITA** divorced care worker with no ties, 5ft 11ins, dark hair, enjoys meals out, cosy nights in, seeking male 45-55 with GSOH and similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411775

**JANET** 5ft 8ins, slim 12, pretty, green eyes, brown hair, seeking male companion for friendship hopefully leading to a relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411689

**WOULD** you like to bounce into spring with me and onwards? Widow late 60's, enjoy most things in life, looking for someone to enjoy with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411395

**LADY** 60, size 12, easy going, likes animals, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411301

**MARIE** 37yrs slim attractive caring, likes meals in/out, cinema, tennis, keeping fit/active, WLTW fun loving, reliable man for friendship leading to more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411037

**SOPHIE** 27yr old nursing assistant with no ties looking for discreet adult fun times with tall attractive guy 35-42yrs. GSOH essential. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410717

**34YR** single mum of 1 who loves nights out having a good time seeks similar sociable fun guy to enjoy relaxed but extremely fun relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410709

**RACHAEL** 36yr old nurse looking to raise the temperature of reliable sincere male. I have my OACH, a single mum to 1, love gym, cosy meals, animals etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411045

**SUSAN** 29 green eyes, dark hair, slim, looking for Mr tall dark and handsome to take me out, enjoy adult times without complications just fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410957

**JANE** pretty size 12, loves going out socialising, countryside, meals out, looking for no strings fun, nothing heavy, give me a call if you are seeking similar. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410579

**BLONDE** female, 5ft 11ins, size 12, likes meals out, drinks, nights in, walks, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409025

**KAREN** blonde blue eyed slim 35yr old interesting female looking for good times, call me if it is in a similar situation, board and looking for some fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410719

**LYN** 34yrs, pretty petite dark haired female, loves music, meals out, quiet drinks out, seeking caring male with GSOH who can make me feel special again. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410137

**CAROLINE** blonde curvy very active lady who loves to socialise, countryside, seeking similar caring male for LTR and to share good times with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409413

**RACHEL** 39, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 6ins, bubbly, outgoing, naughty, busty, divorced, seeks male for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410835

**SUE** optimistic divorced lady with OHAC, good job, enjoys meals out, cinema, countryside, pub chiches, looking for likeminded outgoing happy male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410467

**CATHY** very much a lady seeks sent up to 62yrs who would appreciate an independent professional sassy female who loves to be wined, dined and romanced. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410301

**WOULD** you like to be my Valentine? Widow 68, seeking Valentine 68-70, likes most things, would like to share them with someone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410695

**BLONDE** pretty, long legged, voluptuous, blue eyes, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410585

**KATIE** 21yr old very attractive female who is up for most things, looking for daytime fun, no strings and discreet pls. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410573

**LINDA** young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521

**SUE** 32 blonde blue eyed curvy nurse, caring, loving romantic, faithful, likes cosy nights in with a nice wine and lovely man, if that's you, call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410571

**JANE** tall leggy blonde size 12, nice/eyes, likes yoga, swimming, meals in/out, etc, WLTW nice tall male/dad with similar interests to spend time with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410487

## Men Seeking

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**mydate24**

**TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL PEOPLE. SEND: CHAT2 TO : 80098 (T&C'S BELOW)**

**MALE** 71, 5ft 10ins, medium build, N/S, likes gardening, dogs, seeks female, 65-71 for friendship/companionship and outings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411587

**MALE** 5ft 11ins, good-looking, athletic build, looking for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411477

**PAUL** own business, looking for daytime fun with lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411127

**MALE** seeking female to love and be loved back. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408941

**EX** headmaster, tall, dark, seeks adventurous lady, status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412263

**MALE** 49, 5ft 10ins, likes cinema, reading, walks, seeks female in the Thane area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412235

**BESIDE** the Pointe. Literate self-possessing, legginess, kindred spirit sought by white male for elevating the bar. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412223

**45YR** old male, likes poetry, seeks companion for relationship. Herne Bay area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411993

**CHIPS** on the pier, walks on the beach/countryside, VGSOH, 58yrs old, fit male, seeks female for laughs and love and whatever. NE Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411725

**DAVE** 62, 5ft 10ins, slim, semi-retired builder, seeks no strings discreet daytime meets for adult fun. Surrey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410899

**MALE** likes outdoor life, smoker, seeking local female for cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410755

**BRIAN** 70, Maidstone, seeking female, 60 plus, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, days out and cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410611

**DEREK** 5ft 11ins, slim-medium build, loving, caring, seeking black lady for possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410511

**ADVENTUROUS** male, mid 50's, seeks similar lady for fun and mutually enjoyable discreet relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410339

**MALE** 49, attractive, fit, spontaneous, good company, no ties, seeking likeminded lady for the road ahead, nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411309

**RAY** 63, 5ft 10ins, slim, semi-retired, seeking no strings discreet meets for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411147

**WORLD** war veteran seeking happy lady with nice conversation in the Kent area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411133

**DAVE** 65, retired, N/S, likes gardening, music, meals out, holidays, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410971

**TERRI** 44 green eyed long legged busty blonde, loves to dress up and look feminine, seeking loving, fun, honest professional to fall head over her heels with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410315

**SUE** attractive, likes walks, gardening, social drinks, looking for male to settle down with, 60's. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410231

**68YR** old widow, seeking 68-70yr old gent, likes meals out, cosy nights in, lets start New Year with new outlook. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409467

**CATHY** happy independent female looking for her soul mate, someone to spend quality time but who also likes their own space. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409909

**JEWISH** widow, 67, loves animals, seeks genuine, Jewish gent, 68-73 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410547

**DAWN** 38 dark hair/eyed medium build busty female who loves nights in/out, WLTW fun honest male/single dad with GSOH to help mend my broken heart. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410483

**PROFESSIONAL** male, early 40's, fun loving, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409661

**PROFESSIONAL** male, early 40's, fun loving, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409661

**41YR** old male, dark hair, 5ft 11ins, easy going, likes music, guitar, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410411

**BROWN** eyed white mature, handsome male, seeking black female, 18-50 for discreet no strings adult fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410377

**PHIL** 6ft, clean shaven, blue eyes, smart, likes sports, walks, films, theatre, music, animals, GSOH, seeks female, 40-55 for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410351

**RETIRED** male, fit, active, seeks no strings discreet meet with female, any age and size. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410343

**DAVE** 50, seeks female of similar age for meals out, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408415

**RETIRED** male, 66, 6ft 2ins, easy going, GSOH, loyal, loves pets, meals out, life, seeks lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407317

**MALE** 67, professional, fit, 5ft 10ins, medium build, reliable, tactile, likes most things, seeks single lady, let's go! Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407855

**RETIRED** male, seeks no strings discreet meets with slim-medium build female, any age for adult fun. Dover. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409533

**MALE** seeking attractive female for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409189

**FIT** fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857

**CHRIS** 52, slim, looking for female, 25-38, slim, 5ft 2ins plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405975



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**ADAM** 48, single dad, bored, seeking fun and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408421

**DOG** lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, area. Immaterial. Unbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

**ANTHONY** 48, athletic, enjoys country walks, seeks youthful female for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407355

**71YR** old romantic, 6ft, likes life, socialising, reading, strong tea, dogs, smoker but house trained seeks mature lady needing TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407277

**TALL** friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Cropton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147

**BLACK** male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221

**STEVE** 6ft 4ins, OHAC, seeking relationship, outdoor type, homely, wanting mutual good relationship with sexy woman. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407835

**YOUNG** 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519

**DAVE** genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388372

**RETIRED** male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easygoing, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589

**DOG** lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, area. Immaterial. Unbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

**ANTHONY** 48, athletic, enjoys country walks, seeks youthful female for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407355

**71YR** old romantic, 6ft, likes life, socialising, reading, strong tea, dogs, smoker but house trained seeks mature lady needing TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407277

**TALL** friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Cropton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147

**BLACK** male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221

**FIT** fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857

**CHRIS** 52, slim, looking for female, 25-38, slim, 5ft 2ins plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405975

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# business

## Euro aid boost to help kick-start regeneration

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

THE European Commission has confirmed parts of Swale and Medway have been granted Assisted Area Status (AAS) – meaning they will be able to access additional support and funding to boost investment.

The area was nominated by the UK government and has been given the nod by Brussels.

It will now be able to receive EU regional aid.

The area covered is known as the 'Medway-Swale regeneration arc' and takes in much of Hoo, including all of Grain plus sections of Gillingham, Chatham and Rochester. It also extends down the west coast of Sheppey, covering areas such as Queenborough and Sheerness, before stretching down to the mainland and parts of Sittingbourne.

Regional aid is typically offered as capital investment for businesses in less prosperous local economies designated for AAS.

Programmes offering regional aid include the Regional Growth Fund



**HELPING HAND:** Paul Wookey

(RGF) and the Advanced Manufacturing Supply Chain Initiative (AMSCI).

Paul Wookey is chief executive of Locate in Kent, the county's inward investment champions.

He said: "This is a massive opportunity for these parts of the county as it now removes the barrier to Regional Growth Fund support for firms em-

ploying more than 250 people in these particular areas while at the same time ensuring smaller businesses are eligible.

"Kent has a lot to offer businesses, but it is clear there are parts of the county that need additional support in order for them to achieve their full potential. This decision will make Kent more attractive to larger firms and support the widest possible economic growth."

The areas will join parts of Thanet and Dover which have already been granted AAS.

Although AAS does not guarantee regional aid funding, support is targeted at key employment areas and development sites in areas, where investment has been prioritised by Local Enterprise Partnerships and local authorities.

The success in putting the case for continuing and extending AAS in Kent was the result of the combined efforts of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, the Kent & Medway Economic Board, Kent County Council, the district councils of Dover, Thanet and Swale, and Medway Council.

## Want your firm on TV show?

PRODUCTION company Victory Television is on the hunt for small businesses to get in touch to take part in a new high-profile TV show to be shown later this year.

It wants to hear from Kent companies with less than 100 staff to appear on screen and learn advice and tutoring from a major British entrepreneur.

For more information, contact [Lucie\\_Rose@victorytelevision.com](mailto:Lucie_Rose@victorytelevision.com) or phone 0207 406 3057.

## Haulier invests in longer trailers

TRANSPORT firm Alan Firmin has bought three new longer-length trailers.

It forms part of a government 10-year trial into the feasibility of operating such trailers in the UK.

The Sittingbourne-based company will use the trailers – two metres longer than standard – on its overnight Palletforce service. Firmin's fleet consists of 70 tractor units and more than 150 trailers.

## Vodafone splashes out as it continues 4G roll-out plans

TELECOMMUNICATIONS giant Vodafone has started the roll-out of its super-fast 4G mobile data network in Ashford this week.

The successor to industry standard 3G, the upgrade brings speeds to mobiles and handheld devices more akin to traditional broadband speeds in the home.

Many of the major mobile networks have introduced the technology already – some introducing a premium tariff or upgrading existing customers for free.

It was made available in major cities earlier this year, but its spread across the county will be welcomed by consumers and business users alike.

EE (Everything Everywhere) which acquired the initial exclusive rights to the 4G network, has already rolled out the service in Ashford, as well as Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Maidstone and Sevenoaks.

In the last few months, Vodafone has embarked on a programme which will see its 4G coverage extended to 238 cities, towns and districts.

Vodafone paid out £802 million to acquire what it says is the "widest portfolio of mobile spectrum" – in other words it claims that by the end of 2015, through a combination of 2G, 3G and 4G services, 98 per cent of the population will be able to get a signal – inside or out.

The firm is currently progressing an aggressive, high-profile push to secure its significant market share, with a TV campaign which has a brand tie-in with Star Wars, and offering users free access to online streaming music service Spotify or Sky Sports Mobile TV.

This week it also unveiled an exclusive mobile promotional partnership with streaming TV and film service Netflix. It will give customers signing up to its Red 4G plan free access to the increasingly popular service for the first six months of their contract.

Advertisers Announcement

## Less Is More!

Customers are the most important factor in your business. Why then question their relevance? Many (too many!) business owners want to be **all things to all people** – fearing to lose customers. However, more clients don't necessarily mean more profit! How many of your customers are **time thieves and price shoppers**? Probably more than you would like. Still, you dread to let them go or to change the terms to make these relationships profitable. At **Donal Lucey Lawlor** we understand the **right client base** is essential for running and **growing your business**.

- **Identify your target market.** Ideal target market is group(s) of people who **need** and **want** your services or product, **can afford them** and **have similarities** enabling you to focus on their needs.
- **Limit your market.** Although this may sound counter-intuitive, it isn't! Although you'll lose some prospects, what actually happens is you **increase the amount of business** within your target group.
- **Don't be afraid to charge more.** By giving up discounts and 'special prices' you will lose some price shoppers. However, this will free up your time for clients willing to pay **appropriately** for your work. Even if you don't make more money, you'll work less for the same income.
- **Seek professional advice!** If you want your business to effectively grow and improve, professional guidance is **essential**.



If you want to learn more about successfully growing your business, call us **today** for a **FREE non- obligation Business Advice Meeting** on 01303 230 587 or email [info@tlsh.co.uk](mailto:info@tlsh.co.uk).

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6 days, half board, £649pp  
Departs 18 June & 27 August, 2014

**QUOTE:**  
SC6/B-KOS

The Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh line - as featured in Michael Palin's original Great Railway Journeys TV series - has spectacular views, passing Loch Carron, the Cullin Hills and the Isle of Skye - enjoy a return trip on the train and a visit to Skye. We also include a ride on the Strathspey Steam Railway; a visit to Loch Ness, with the option of a loch cruise; and a Highlands coach tour with a whisky distillery visit.

**INCLUDED:**

- Escorted throughout from London
- Return rail travel from London to Aviemore (also options to join at York, Newcastle and the hotel)
- 5 nights at a 3-star hotel in the Highlands with 5 dinners and 5 breakfasts
- Rail excursion to Kyle of Lochalsh
- Visit to the Isle of Skye
- Trip on the Strathspey railway
- All transfers & touring in Scotland



## BRAEMAR GATHERING & HIGHLAND STEAM

**Escorted Holiday by Rail**  
6 days, half board, £609pp  
Departs 4 September, 2014

**QUOTE:**  
BG9-KOS

Since 1848 the world-famous Braemar Gathering has been regularly attended by the reigning Monarch (as the Chieftain of the gathering) and members of the Royal Family. We will visit the gathering with reserved seating. We also tour the Trossachs and cruise on Loch Katrine; ride the Strathspey Steam Railway to Aviemore; and visit Queens View and Pitlochry.

**Note:** Attendance by the Queen and Prince Charles not guaranteed

**INCLUDED:**

- Escorted throughout from London
- Return rail travel from London to Pitlochry
- 5 nights at a 3-star hotel in Perthshire with 5 dinners and 5 breakfasts
- Loch Katrine Cruise
- Ride on the Strathspey Railway
- Entry to Braemar Gathering - seated in open stand
- All transfers & touring in Scotland

## RIVIERA OF FLOWERS, MONACO & PORTOFINO



**QUOTE: FR-KOS**

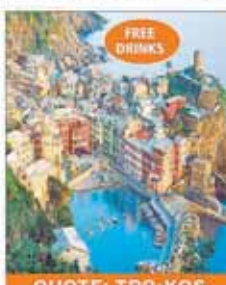
**Escorted Holiday by Rail**  
8 days, semi-all-inclusive, from £799pp  
Departs in Sept & Oct 2014; Apr, May, Sept & Oct 2015

**FREE DRINKS**  
CHECK-IN

This super holiday, taking in the French and Italian Rivas, starts with a glass of Bubbly at St Pancras before taking an afternoon Eurostar (from Ebbsfleet on request) to Lille or Paris. After an overnight stay, we continue by TGV train to Nice then coach to Diano Marina. Enjoy free drinks every night at the hotel and excursions to Monaco, Eze, Portofino and Dolceacqua.

**INCLUDED:** Escorted throughout  
• Champagne Check-in at London St Pancras • Return rail travel from St Pancras to Nice (from Ebbsfleet on request) • 1 night hotel B&B in Paris or Lille • 6 nights in Diano Marina - half board plus selected free drinks 6pm to 11pm every night • All excursions • Transfers abroad

## TUSCANY COAST & COUNTRY EXPLORER



**QUOTE: TR9-KOS**

**Escorted Holiday by Rail**  
8 days, semi-all-inclusive, £899pp  
Departs 20 September, 2014

**FREE DRINKS**

Come with us to incomparable Tuscany. The Tuscan seaside town of Forte del Marmi has been described as the region's Beverly Hills and here we enjoy free drinks every night at our hotel. We will visit Lucca, Pisa, Florence and Porto Venere - with access to stunning Cinque Terra. There is also the opportunity to visit Portofino.

**INCLUDED:** Escorted throughout  
• Return Eurostar & TGV rail travel London St Pancras to Nice (from Ebbsfleet on request)  
• 1 night hotel B&B in or near Nice & 6 nights in Italy with 6 buffet breakfasts, 6 dinners & Free Drinks from 6pm to 10pm every night  
• Excursions & transfers

## 4 STAR BRUSSELS' CARPET OF FLOWERS & BRUGES



**QUOTE: BC8-KOS**

**Escorted Holiday by Rail**  
4 days, £359pp  
Departs 15 August, 2014

**CHAMPAGNE**  
CHECK-IN

Come with us to see Belgium's Carpet of Flowers - set in the unique, ancient surroundings of the Grand-Place in Brussels. The beauty and diversity of the displays is truly magical. Our holiday starts with a glass of Bubbly at St Pancras famous Champagne bar before taking an early afternoon Eurostar direct to Brussels. We stay for 3 nights in a 4-star city-centre hotel and also visit the delightful city of Bruges.

**INCLUDED:** Escorted throughout  
• Champagne Check-in at London St Pancras • Return Eurostar & TGV rail travel London St Pancras to Brussels (from Ebbsfleet on request) • 3 nights B&B stay at a 4-star hotel in Brussels • Excursion to Bruges by train • Transfers from station to hotel on arrival and departure

## ZUNDERT FLOWER PARADE & ANTWERP



**QUOTE: AZ9-KOS**

**Escorted Holiday by Rail**  
4 days £369pp  
Departs 5 September, 2014

Come with us on a charming break taking in the spectacular Zundert Flower Parade and Antwerp. The parade is made up of breathtaking displays entirely created by volunteers using dahlias - the largest of its kind in the world. Many of them are animated, giving a truly realistic appearance. The town is also renowned as the birth place of Vincent Van Gogh. Antwerp, Belgium's second biggest city, is our base for this break and is a true architectural wonder.

**INCLUDED:** Escorted throughout  
• Return Eurostar rail travel from London St Pancras to Antwerp (from Ebbsfleet on request)  
• 3 nights B&B stay at a 3-star hotel in Antwerp  
• Excursion to Zundert Flower Parade including reserved seating  
• Transfers from station to hotel on arrival and departure

## RHINE IN FLAMES RIVER CRUISE



**QUOTE: RH10-KOS**

**Escorted Holiday by Rail or Air**  
5 days, semi-all-inclusive from £649pp  
Departs 2 October, 2014

**FREE DRINKS**

This fun-packed cruise visits historic riverside towns including Andernach, Rudesheim, Koblenz and Boppard, where you'll see the Rhine in Flames festival. Originally held to celebrate the grape harvest, this spectacular pyrotechnics show features an illuminated flotilla of riverboats and curtains of fire, bathing the scene in a magical glow. We have chartered the lovely ms Princess, a firm favourite with our river cruise customers.

**INCLUDED:** Escorted throughout • Rail travel from London St Pancras or Ebbsfleet to Cologne, or flights with luggage from Heathrow or Gatwick - supp't may apply • 4 nights full-board cruise sharing a twin bed outside cabin - upgrades available • Beer, wine by the glass and a choice of 2 Dutch spirits served at lunch & dinner and from 6pm to midnight at the bar • Entertainment • Transfers abroad

## BRUGES & VALKENBURG CHRISTMAS MARKETS RIVER CRUISE



**QUOTE: PC11-4-KOS**

**Escorted Holiday by Rail**  
5 days, semi-all-inclusive from £479pp  
Departs 24 November, 2014

**FREE DRINKS**

Join us for a relaxing river cruise taking in Valkenburg with its unique Christmas Market Caves; Maastricht, capital of the Dutch province of Limburg and home of world famous musician Andre Rieu; Antwerp, Belgium's second largest city; Ypres, synonymous with WW1 history; and beautiful Bruges with its wonderful festive atmosphere and markets. We have chartered the lovely ms Princess, a firm favourite with our

river cruise customers.  
**INCLUDED:** Escorted throughout abroad • Return rail travel from London St Pancras or Ebbsfleet to Brussels • 4 nights full-board cruise sharing a twin bed outside cabin - upgrades available • Beer, wine by the glass and a choice of 2 Dutch spirits served at lunch & dinner and from 6pm to midnight at the bar • Entertainment • Transfers abroad

**Note:** Price of Cruises and/or Holidays by Air subject to cabin and/or flight availability at time of booking - supplement may apply



# Three is magic number at Haines Watts

**T**HE Kent offices of national accountancy firm Haines Watts are certainly at the top of their game at the moment.

The firm is celebrating success, having won Accountancy Firm of the Year – SMEs at the annual FIDs' Excellence Awards.

It comes on the back of being recognised as the Auditor of the Year for the past two years.

Using the results of an annual survey in which finance directors and financial decision-makers record their opinions, these prestigious awards are a salute to the service-providers who support Britain's finance community and are supported by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI).

Haines Watts beat competition from other UK firms such as KPMG, Grant Thornton, BDO, Baker Tilly and Deloitte.

Anthony Brand, managing partner of Haines Watts in Kent, said: "It's great to see Haines Watts win such a prestigious award.

"This really matters to us because it's voted for by business people and not by an academic panel of experts."

This month Haines Watts added a second office in Canterbury after its

merger with Burns Waring.

Burns Waring partner Stephen Askew will join existing Haines Watts partners Tony Brand and Frances James, while Fiona Howard will bring the number of associate partners in the firm to four, making more than 30 partners and staff in total.

Mr Brand believes the merger is a great fit.

He said: "This merger not only strengthens our Maidstone office but also gives Haines Watts a presence in a thriving location for owner-managed businesses and professional practices.

"We look forward to working with Stephen and his team".

Mr Askew agreed, saying: "The two firms have similar philosophies – fresh thinking and a practical business approach – delivered in a personal and timely manner."

He added: "It's fantastic we are now part of a firm that has won an award in three consecutive years.

"We are proud of our staff, who do an outstanding job for our clients day to day, and who have contributed towards us winning this award."

■ The Haines Watts Kent offices are at Kings Row, Armstrong Road, Maidstone, and Roper Yard, Roper Road, Canterbury.



**UNITED:** Haines Watt managing partner Anthony Brand, left, welcomes Burns Waring's Stephen Askew after merger

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## PEUGEOT CROSSOVERS

**2013 (63) 2008 Active 1.2 VTI** finished in Cumulus Grey. EX Demo, low mileage. Touchscreen Bluetooth/USB/DAB Radio, air conditioning, alloy wheels ..... **£11,995**

**2013 (63) 2008 Allure HDI (92)** finished in Nimbus Grey. Just 1,000 miles. Panoramic glass roof, Touch screen satellite navigation/Bluetooth/USB/DAB Radio, folding mirrors, parking sensors ..... **EX DEMO DUE SOON**

**2011 (11) 3008 Sport HDI (112)** in choice of metallic finishes. Full history. Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, auto lights/wipers from ..... **£8,995**

**2012 (62) 3008 Active HDI (112) EGC** finished in Shark Grey. Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, auto lights/wipers ..... **£9,995**

**2011 (11) 3008 Exclusive HDI (112) EGC** finished in Hickory. Low mileage, full history. Panoramic glass roof, auto lights/wipers, Bluetooth/USB, climate control ..... **£11,495**

**2013 (63) New 3008 Active HDI (115) EGC** finished in Nera Black. LED daytime running lights, parking sensors, folding mirrors, Bluetooth/USB **EX DEMO DUE SOON**

## PEUGEOT RCZ/CC

**2005 (05) 206CC Allure 1.6** finished in Moonstone Blue with Black Leather interior. Low mileage. Climate control, radio CD, alloys ..... **£3,650**

**2007 (07) 207CC GT 1.6 Automatic** finished in Onyx Black. Low mileage, full history, one owner ..... **£6,950**

**2007 (07) 207CC GT 1.6** finished in Lacerta with black leather. Low mileage, climate control, auto headlights ..... **£7,495**

**2012 (12) RCZ GT 200bhp** finished in Pearl White with black leather interior/Onyx Black alloy wheels. Front/rear parking, climate control, auto lights/wipers, Bluetooth/USB ..... **£17,995**

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• Alloy Wheels  
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**£189 per month**

### 2013 (63) 107 Allure 5dr

• Radio/CD/Bluetooth/USB  
• LED Running Lights  
• Air Conditioning  
• 2 Years Free Servicing\*



**£133 per month**

### 2013 (63) 308 Active Navigation HDI

• Full Colour Satellite Navigation  
• Automatic headlights and wipers  
• Parking sensors and Folding Mirrors  
• 2 Years Free Servicing\*



**£189 per month**

## PEUGEOT 107

**2007 (56) 107 Urban 3dr** finished in Antigua Blue. Low mileage, full history ..... **£3,850**

**2009 (58) 107 Verve 5dr** finished in Mandarin Orange. Full history. Air conditioning, alloy wheels, radio/CD/MP3 ..... **£4,750**

**2009 (09) 107 Urban 2tronic 5dr** finished in Electra Blue. Full history ..... **£5,250**

**2011 (11) 107 Urban 5dr** finished in Laser Red. Full history. Remote Locking, radio CD/MP3, Electric windows, ABS ..... **£5,850**

**2012 (12) 107 Active 5dr** finished in Carbon Grey. Just 4,200 miles, full history. Air conditioning, front fog lights ..... **£6,495**

**2012 (12) 107 Active 5dr** finished in Laser Red. Full history. Air conditioning, front fog lights ..... **£6,495**

**2010 (60) 107 Urban 2Tronic 5dr** finished in Laser Red. Just 6,150 miles. Full History. **£6,950**

**2013 (63) 107 Allure 5dr** finished in Zircon. Bluetooth/USB, LED lights, tinted windows, air conditioning, alloys ..... **£7,750**

## PEUGEOT 206/207/208

**2005 (54) 206SW S HDI 70** finished in Aegean Blue. Air conditioning, radio CD, ABS ..... **£2,850**

**2011 (61) 207 Sportium 1.4 5dr** finished in Bianca White. Just 6,500 miles, one owner, full history. Satnav, Bluetooth/USB connectivity, alloys, tinted windows ..... **£7,795**

**2014 (14) 208 Active VTi 5dr** finished in Nera Black. Delivery mileage. Touch screen Bluetooth/USB/DAB Radio, air conditioning, alloys ..... **£10,995**

**2013 (13) 208 Allure HDI 70 5dr** finished in Rose Quartz. Climate control, auto lights and wipers, touch screen DAB/Bluetooth/USB ..... **£12,495**

## PEUGEOT 308/3008

**2011 (60) 308 Millesim 1.4** finished in Shark Grey. One owner, low mileage, full history. Bluetooth/USB, alloy wheels, air conditioning ..... **£7,250**

**2013 (63) 308 Active HDI (92) Navigation** finished in Egyptian Blue. Full colour satnav, Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, folding mirrors, climate control, auto lights/wipers ..... **£11,495**

**2013 (63) NEW 308 ACTIVE HDI (92)** finished in Twilight Blue. Ex demonstrator, very low mileage. Touch screen Satnav/Bluetooth/USB/DAB Radio, climate control, parking sensors ..... **SUPERB SAVING ON NEW PRICE**

## PEUGEOT 407/508

**2009 (09) 407 SW GT HDI Automatic** finished Moroccan Red with black leather interior. One owner, full history ..... **£7,995**

**2012 (12) 508SW Allure HDI 140** finished in Alpine Blue. Full colour satnav, Bluetooth/USB, auto lights/wipers, parking sensors, 'openGo' system, panoramic glass roof ..... **£13,995**

**2013 (63) 508 Allure HDI 163 Automatic** finished in Oyster. Delivery mileage. Xenon headlights, front and rear parking sensors, full colour Nav, 'OpenGo' system. **EX DEMO WITH SUPERB SAVING ON NEW PRICE**

## PEUGEOT MPV

**2013 (13) 5008 Allure EGC** finished in Shark Grey. Panoramic glass roof, Bluetooth/USB, parking sensors, auto lights/wipers, climate control ..... **£14,995**

## LCV

**2012 (62) Boxer L1 H1 HDI 110 Professional** finished in Aluminium Silver with ply lined interior. Bluetooth/USB, air conditioning, bulkhead ..... **£9,950 (plus VAT)**

## OTHER MAKES

**2001 (51) Mercedes C320 Avantgarde Automatic** finished in Silver ..... **£2,995**

**2007 (07) Vauxhall Meriva Energy 1.4** finished in Metallic Blue. Just 25,600 miles. Air conditioning, radio CD, electric windows and mirrors ..... **£4,250**

**2007 (07) Ford Cmax Zetec Automatic** finished in Silver. Low mileage, good history ..... **£5,650**

**2011 (60) Ford Fiesta Edge 1.2 3dr** finished in White. 9,700 miles ..... **£6,995**

**2011 (11) Ford KA Edge 1.2** finished in Black. Just 6,000 miles ..... **£6,995**

**2010 (60) Renault Megane Cabriolet Tce 130 Dynamique Tom Tom** finished in White. Low mileage, one owner. Satnav, auto lights/wipers ..... **£10,495**

## PART EXCHANGES TO CLEAR

**2004 (04) Partner Combi Quiksilver HDI** finished in Silver. Superb history ..... **POA**

**2000 (W) Volvo V70 Estate 7 Seat** finished in Red. MOT April 2015 ..... **£1275**

Monthly payment figures are based on Passport Personal Lease provided by Peugeot Financial Services. Peugeot 208 36 monthly rentals of £189, £1495 advance rental, final rental £5,212, Peugeot 107 36 monthly rentals of £133, £995 advance rental, final rental £3,521, Peugeot 308 36 monthly rentals of £189, £1,495 advance rental, final rental £5,424. All examples are based on maximum annual mileage of 6,000. Vehicle must be returned at end of lease period in good condition and to an agreed mileage or additional charges may apply. All published rentals include VAT at the current rate. Pictures are for illustrative purposes only and may not represent actual specification. All offers are subject to availability and may be withdrawn without further notice at any time. All finance subject to status. Prices were correct at time of going to press. We are licensed credit brokers, written details are available on request. Finance is subject to status to over 18s only, guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Free servicing is linked to Peugeot Financial Services agreement and is based on the next two services due according to manufacturer's schedule\*



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By Steve Loader  
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

## Update

### Nissan Juke

Price:	£13,420
Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Best rival:	Alfa Romeo MiTo

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**RUNAWAY SUCCESS:** Nissan's original Juke created the crossover sector and this new version will soon be joined by an all-new X-Trail, here



# Good times roll for Nissan

**E**ARLIER this year, Nissan launched its second-generation British-built Qashqai, which already looks like scaling even greater sales and award-winning heights than its predecessor.

The original car created the new crossover sector, relaunched Nissan on the UK market and also highlighted the success of its Sunderland production plant – the first so-called transplant site by a Japanese motor-manufacturer.

But the brand, which has its sights trained on a more premium market position with the new Qashqai, has more cards up its sleeve for 2014.

June sees the launch of a revamped Juke, a junior crossover and another Sunderland product, to be followed by an all-new X-Trail crossover/SUV model soon after.

Priced from £13,420, the new-look Juke wears some slight cosmetic changes to its bulldog stance, plus a new engine line-up and almost limitless options for personalisation and customisation – an increasingly important virtue for younger drivers attracted to the MINI and Fiat 500 sales pitch.

Not that buyers will feel short-changed by the entry-level 1.6-litre petrol Visia model, since standard kit includes 16-inch alloys, air-con, CD system with aux-in connection for MP3-players, front and rear electric windows, tyre-pressure monitoring system and daytime running lights.

Those who want all-wheel-drive, though, will find this only on the top two trim levels, Acenta Premium and Tekna, and starting with the supercharged 1.6-litre petrol DIG-T Acenta Premium 4WD X-tronic (£20,220).

Whether buyers opt for the lower or higher trim levels, though, the DIG-T looks like the unit to go for; it

With award-winners already flying off its Sunderland production line, the Japanese car-maker can expect yet more success as 2014 trundles on, writes **Steve Loader**

## Other view...

### the Petrolhead

The Juke's styling makes it a Marmite motor – you either love it or hate it – and I'm afraid I remain in the latter camp.

### She says

It's too ugly and the rear space is poor for a car its size. I couldn't consider it alongside a MINI or Fiat 500.

### the Eco-warrior

Not a bad range of engines for mixing power and economy, but the car's bulk is great in relation to cabin space.



has proven itself to be lively yet economical – if you don't abuse the supercharger – and costs £1,400 less than the equivalent diesel.

If you don't expect to do many miles, then you'll never get the diesel's extra outlay back in fuel savings.

Still on practicalities, Nissan has also been able to extract a 40 per cent increase in luggage capacity on front-wheel-drive-only versions of the Juke; just as well, really, because the major failing of the design is the modest cabin dimensions and particularly poor rear headroom, but at least it is a better load-lugger this time round.

Space worries are unlikely to be a problem, though, for the Juke's bigger brother, the X-Trail – in showrooms from Thursday, July 17.

Again, it's clear that Nissan is going after a more premium demand with luxurious and hi-tech kit at the top end, the option of five or seven seats and a more upmarket stance

than its two rather utilitarian-looking predecessors.

Nevertheless, prices start at a modest £22,995 for the entry-level two-wheel-drive-only (2WD) five-seat Visia variant – £2,600 less than its predecessor.

Even the predicted best-seller, the five-seat 2WD Acenta, costs just £24,795 – £800 less than before. For those wanting 4x4, this starts at £26,495, which also looks good value against some of the opposition.

Safety and driver aids are a major feature of the new car: even entry-level Visia trim is offered with a Smart Vision Pack for a modest £495.

The X-Trail is produced in Nissan's Japanese homeland, but there is more good news for Nissan Sunderland: the plant also builds the brand's all-electric Leaf model and this saw a 30 per cent increase in fleet sales last year and a spectacular 132 per cent rise in sales overall – could the electric revolution be under way at last?





## Fleet dreams are made of this

And who are we to disagree? Our best-in-class Drive-E D4 engine is a 4-cylinder engine that delivers impressively low emissions, but with the power and performance of a 6-cylinder. In fact, our engine produces an outstanding 181hp from only 99g/km CO<sub>2</sub> and 74.3mpg combined,\* figures that BMW, Audi and Mercedes can't even match on comparable models. Since the balance between power and efficiency is something everybody's looking for, it's nice to know with our S60, V60 and XC60 nothing is compromised.

**The New Volvo V60 and S60 from 99g/km**

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### Book a test drive at Lipscomb Volvo Centres in Canterbury and Maidstone today

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Official fuel consumption for The New Volvo D4 FWD manual and auto in MPG (l/100km): Urban 50.4 (5.6) – 65.7 (4.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5) – 78.5 (3.6), Combined 57.6 (4.9) – 74.3 (3.8). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 129 – 99g/km. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results.

\*Volvo S60 D4 manual 181hp, 99g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 74.3mpg combined. Audi A4 2.0TDi 177hp, 134g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 55.4mpg combined. BMW 320d 184hp, 120g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 61.4mpg combined. Mercedes C220 CDI 170hp, 109g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 68.9mpg combined. \*Volvo V60 D4 manual 181hp, 99g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 74.3mpg combined. Audi A4 Avant 2.0TDi 177hp, 139g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 53.3mpg combined. BMW Touring 320d ED 163hp, 112g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 65.7mpg combined. Mercedes C220 CDI Estate 170hp, 114g/km CO<sub>2</sub>, 65.7mpg combined. All figures confirmed by manufacturers own websites as at 20/12/13.

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[www.lipscomb.co.uk/volvo](http://www.lipscomb.co.uk/volvo)





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**NissanConnect** | **DIG-T engine** | **Torque Vectoring System**



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**Tel: 0844 858 4108**  
[baileys-nissan.co.uk](http://baileys-nissan.co.uk)

Opening hours 9.00-5.30 Monday to Friday, 9.00-5.30 Saturday and 10.00-4.00 Sunday

Fuel consumption figures for Juke range are: URBAN 28.8-48.7mpg (9.8-5.8L/100km), EXTRA URBAN 47.1-67.3mpg (6.0-4.2L/100km), COMBINED 38.2-58.9mpg (7.4-4.8L/100km), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 169-124g/km.

\*Only available on models equipped with 4WD 1.6 DIG-T. Model shown is a Juke n-tec 1.6 petrol priced at £16,295 On The Road with optional metallic paint at £500. Models subject to availability. Google™ Send-to-car and Google™ Places require subscription, compatible phone or device (not included with vehicle), and Wi-Fi or 3G connection, and rely on services provided by third parties outside Nissan's control. Cellular networks not available in all areas. Voice minutes, roaming charges and/or data usage may apply. Nissan is not responsible for any equipment replacement or upgrades, or associated costs that may be required for continued operation due to service changes. Google™ wordmark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Google Inc. Information correct at the time of going to print. Nissan Motor (GB) Limited, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Maple Cross, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.





## FirstGEAR

### Motoring news



## 208's glass class

PEUGEOT'S glorious Cielo full-length glass roof is usually fitted to flagship models as standard, so finding it on a cut-price special-edition 208 hatchback, the Style (from £13,445), is a big bonus.

The Style comes with the specification of the 208's best-selling Active trim, plus that roof, satellite navigation, parking aid, leather steering-wheel, chrome door-mirrors and more, a package worth more than £1,400 yet adding just £750.



## Mii meets Mango

FOR a while, the VW city-car project – VW Up, SEAT Mii and Skoda Citigo – has dominated its sector, but it will be under pressure shortly with a riposte by a trio of clones from Toyota, Citroën C1 and Peugeot.

The response has been some eye-catching specials like the Mii Mango (from £10,995) a luxury special-edition created in collaboration with the Spanish fashion label, featuring bespoke badging and colour schemes.



## Citigo Monte Carlo

MEANWHILE, Skoda has called on the mystique of a rally classic to create the Citigo Monte Carlo special.

Priced from just £10,590 and based on mid-range SE grade, it gains smart black highlights, spoked alloys, lowered suspension for a more dynamic stance, sports steering-wheel, Monte Carlo red/black upholstery and Skoda's Portable Infotainment Device with sat-nav, Bluetooth and media-player.

Week ending May 25, 2014 **55**

**A**LMOST by stealth, Volvo seems to have stolen a march on bigger and better-funded rivals.

It has done so with a cunning plan to create a common structural platform to suit its entire range and a family of powertrains that is, effectively, just one engine.

It's the new 2.0-litre D4 and can be set up to deliver many different outputs as a diesel, petrol or gas unit and linked to Volvo's new plug-in hybrid system, too.

OK, it's a gamble that could fail if the Swedish marque's profligate American customers can't be weaned off their V8s, but maybe even they will see this is the future.

And that is especially once they realise what a clever engine the D4 is; the V60 diesel estate model tested here has 181PS (179bhp) on tap and a 7.6-second 0-62mph sprint time – it's no slouch.

And yet this same car is also an eco-saint: its official combined mpg is a staggering 74.3 and it will also escape road tax with a CO2 emissions figure of 99g of CO2, highlighting why many company-car user-choosers are casting Audi and BMW brochures aside and checking out big tax savings on a V60 and its saloon equivalent, the S60.

But don't choose the D4 V60 just for its Scrooge-like economy; remember that there is power on tap if you do need to press on, and the chassis is far from a no-hoper.

Our car was a V60 SE Lux Start/Stop (£32,045) and, while it didn't have the highly-recommended and coveted R-Design body kit, is a particularly good-looking yet practical estate and probably more eye-catching than its saloon sister.

Admittedly, it is not a load-lugger in the great Volvo tradition; a downswept rear roof means it will not seduce

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# An engine for all seasons... and reasons

Volvo's 'all for one, one for all' approach to engines may have created a clever blueprint for others, writes **Steve Loader**

antique-dealers and the like with an ability to swallow a chest of drawers, but the bigger V70 is in the range for that anyway.

Instead, you get an altogether racier image that is now being enhanced by the arrival of a new performance model from Volvo's

tuning arm, Polestar.

Let's be clear, though: mainstream V60s do not have the driver-pleasing precision handling on some German rivals and the steering does not have the feedback, either. However, they do ride well and seem to swallow motorway miles better than almost any rival, and cheaply, too – I averaged more than 60mpg on a two-hour run without really trying to spare the throttle.

The engine is quiet and refined and you are hard pressed to even know it is running on diesel, except for its ability to take off quickly when emerging from a junction into a long-awaited gap in traffic.

The V60 is a pretty impressive space to be



KEA





**GO ECO IN STYLE:** Fiat's cheeky open-top 500C will please and save



**FAMILY WAGON:** The low-emission Nissan Qashqai escapes road tax

## Driving down cost of motoring

**D**ESPITE all efforts to talk up electric and hydrogen cars, the internal combustion engine just won't lie down and die.

And it has come a long way fast since the threat of global warming was identified; power and economy have soared, while CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have fallen.

Large family cars and MPVs are now capable of an average fuel consumption close to where superminis were just a few years ago, and it isn't all to do with the engine, either: low-rolling resistance tyres, lighter oils, slicker aerodynamics and weight-saving

construction can help modern cars slash emissions and mpg – just as well with fuel prices moving in the opposite direction.

There are other forces driving us down the eco-motoring route, too; the Government persuades us to downsize into smaller and cleaner cars through tougher road-tax bandings, ranging from zero to £500 a year.

The ceiling is even higher in year one, when buying a new gas-guzzler model attracts a £1,090 hit – mind you, anyone who can think about buying a thirsty luxury model won't be put off by an extra cost that size.



**CHIC MISER:** Renault's Clio supermini mixes good looks with big savings

www.citroen.co.uk



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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km); Highest: Citroën C3 VTi 120 automatic Exclusive 9.3/30.4, 4.9/57.6, 6.5/43.5, 150. Lowest: Citroën C3 e-HDi 70 Airream EGS VTR+ 3.6/78.5, 3.2/88.3, 3.4/83.1, 87. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.





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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Octavia Hatch 1.6 TDI CR 110PS DPF GreenLine III: Urban 74.3 (3.8), Extra Urban 94.2 (3.0), Combined 88.3 (3.2). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 85g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.





**GETTING THE GREEN LIGHT:** From left to right, Renault's Captur crossover has good economy options; check out Skoda Greenline models like this Octavia; Alfa Romeo's stylish MiTo supermini

# Diesel petrol

...it's so much harder to choose nowadays

**D**IESEL has been the big hitter in the car-economy fight for a while, but petrol has come off the ropes with some clever moves.

Smaller cars are better suited to petrol engines; diesels are more expensive to buy and usually heavier, blunting the driving response that can make city cars, superminis and family hatchbacks so appealing.

They can be harder on tyres and front-end mechanicals, too.

Manufacturers like Fiat, Nissan,

Skoda and Renault have also hit back with smaller, lighter turbocharged and supercharged petrol units that make cars nimbler and deliver good acceleration yet bring good fuel consumption and low emissions/road tax – if driven sensibly.

Meanwhile, diesels have taken a few knocks. Their original appeal was the cheapness of the fuel, greater mpg and the better low-down pulling power of the engines, plus their ability to meet the then tighter emissions legislation.


However, diesel fuel now commands

an increasing premium against petrol and there are doubts whether the engines can continue to meet ever-tougher emission laws.

As you go up the scale in car size, though, diesel still makes sense.


The key before buying is to weigh the diesel's better economy and likely resale value against your expected mileage and years of ownership, fuel price at the pumps and the extra cost of buying the car.

And don't forget the petrol version might be nicer to drive and save on tyres.



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\*Based on QVC research featured on <http://daily.rai.it/jf9Dnq>

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE. CHRYSLER YPSILON 1.2 S

ON THE ROAD PRICE	£10,750	CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£139	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	£8,611	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE BY CUSTOMER	£9,750	RATE OF INTEREST (FIXED)	3.11%
DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION (INCL. VAT)	£2,000	MONTHLY PAYMENT	£139	OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT (INCL. £295 FEE)	£3,078	DURATION OF CONTRACT (MONTHS)	48	REPRESENTATIVE APR	4.3%

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OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE CHRYSLER YPSILON RANGE IN MPG (L/100KM): EXTRA URBAN 65.7 (4.3) – 88.3 (3.2), URBAN 44.1 (6.4) – 60.1 (4.7), COMBINED 55.4 (5.1) – 74.3 (3.8). CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS IN G/KM 118 – 97.

FUEL CONSUMPTION AND CO<sub>2</sub> FIGURES ARE OBTAINED FOR COMPARATIVE PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH EC DIRECTIVES/REGULATIONS AND MAY NOT BE REPRESENTATIVE OF REAL-LIFE DRIVING CONDITIONS. FACTORS SUCH AS DRIVING STYLE, WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS MAY ALSO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON FUEL CONSUMPTION. \*MODEL SHOWN: YPSILON 1.2 S IN CLAY RED. PROMOTION AVAILABLE ON NEW YPSILON MODELS REGISTERED BEFORE 30TH JUNE 2014. WITH CHRYSLER HORIZON YOU HAVE THE OPTION TO RETURN THE VEHICLE AND NOT PAY THE FINAL PAYMENT, SUBJECT TO THE VEHICLE NOT HAVING EXCEEDED AN AGREED ANNUAL MILEAGE (A CHARGE OF 6P PER MILE FOR EXCEEDING 6,000 MILES PER ANNUM IN THIS EXAMPLE) AND BEING IN GOOD CONDITION. FINANCE SUBJECT TO STATUS. GUARANTEES MAY BE REQUIRED. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. AT PARTICIPATING DEALERS ONLY. WE WORK WITH A NUMBER OF CREDITORS INCLUDING CHRYSLER FINANCIAL SERVICES, CHRYSLER FINANCIAL SERVICES, PO BOX 4465, SLOUGH, SL1 0RW. FIAT - CHRYSLER AND CNH INDUSTRIAL ARE OFFICIAL GLOBAL PARTNERS OF THE EXPO MILANO 2015. TO FIND OUT MORE PLEASE VISIT CHRYSLER.CO.UK. PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS (04/14). CHRYSLER IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES



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New Note 1.2 MAN: URBAN 47.96 mpg (5.9L/100km); EXTRA URBAN 70.6 mpg (4.0L/100km); COMBINED 60.1 mpg (4.7L/100km); CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 109g/km.

Offers valid until 30 June 2014 at participating dealers only. Model shown is New Note Visia Limited Edition at £9,995 OTR. Information correct at time of going to print. Model shown is for illustration purposes only. Models subject to availability. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

Fiat with



# FASHIONABLY THRIFTY

Fashionista newflash... The Fiat 500 Pop in Bossa Nova White comes with 14" steel wheels, electric front windows and electronically adjustable door mirrors. But timeless glamour and elegant gadgetry are only half the story. Just in... it's also fashionably more feasible – with some head-turning financing deals... don't wrap it – drive it home.



FIAT 500 POP 1.2			
On the Road Price	£10,160	36 Monthly Payments	£129
Fiat Deposit Contribution	£500	Optional Final Payment (inc option fee of £285)	£4,971
Customer Deposit	£1,349	Total Amount Payable by Customer	£10,964
Amount of Credit	£8,311	Rate of Interest (Fixed)	5.18%
Duration of Contract	37 months	Representative 6.5% APR	



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Fuel consumption figures for Fiat 500 range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 49.6 (5.7) – 64.2 (4.4); Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3) – 91.1 (3.1); Combined 58.9 (6.5) – 76.3 (3.7). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 113 – 90 g/km. Fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures based on standard EU tests for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Terms & Conditions apply. Retail customers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. With Fiat i-Deal you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (A charge of 6p per mile for exceeding 6,000 miles per annum in this example) and being in good condition. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Fiat Financial Services, PO Box 4465, Slough SL1 0RW. We work with a number of creditors to provide finance to our customers, including Fiat Financial Services. April to June 2014 offer. Fiat Deposit Contribution available on Fiat 500 models, and is only available in conjunction with Fiat i-Deal Low Cost. Prices correct at time of printing. Offer may be varied and withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability.



# Clever driving can cut motoring bills

**M**AN and machine in harmony can slash pounds off your motoring. But the first step is to consider downsizing or running a cheaper car.

Then save even more by smarter driving and journey-planning. Avoid short journeys; a cold engine wastes fuel and can produce 60 per cent more pollution than a warm one, and short trips incur extra servicing and engine wear.

If you must drive, drive off immediately rather than idling the

engine. It will warm up faster, use less fuel and pump out less CO<sub>2</sub>.

In winter, this also helps the car-heater warm faster.

Other money-savers are:

- Plan routes to save strain on car and driver. Take the most direct route and go off-peak if possible. If you commute, think about car-sharing and 'park-and-ride' bus schemes or other public transport.
- Have your vehicle serviced regularly. Neglected engines cut fuel economy by 10 per

cent or more. Catalytic converters clean emissions but only when properly maintained.

- Check tyres. Under-inflated tyres need replacing more often (itself an environmental problem), are dangerous and waste fuel. Check pressures weekly.
- Obey speed limits to save money and stay legal. 'Feather' the throttle as you reach cruising speed; 55mph uses 25 per cent less fuel than

70mph and a smoother driving style saves fuel.

- Accelerate briskly without racing the engine. Pulling away too fast uses up to 60 per cent more fuel. Intelligent gear-changes at modest engine speeds can save up to 15 per cent in fuel.
- Cut drag. Remove roof-racks and carriers when not in use. Open windows cause drag and lower fuel economy. Remove unnecessary and heavy boot luggage and

accessories and wide tyres that add rolling resistance. Air-conditioning costs fuel, so try to use the fan and vents unassisted.

- Think ahead. There is no point rushing and then having to brake suddenly.
- Be a tank miser. Why fill the tank to the brim and carry more weight than is necessary?
- Avoid zero mpg. Turn off the engine after two minutes to save fuel and emissions if stuck in a jam.



**CHUNKY ECONOMY:** This Skoda Yeti can be cheap to run



**A SUPERMINI SAVER:** Citroën's DS3 is stylish and economical



**TURBOCHARGED MISER:** Chrysler's Ypsilon TwinAir

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www.northgatealfaromeo.co.uk

\*Model shown: Alfa MiTo 875cc TB TwinAir 105 bhp Sportiva at £15,550 Offer Price<sup>†</sup> including £750 Customer Saving<sup>†</sup> & excluding Alfa Red Special Paint at £450. Range of official fuel consumption figures for the Alfa MiTo range: Urban 34.9 – 64.2 mpg (8.1 – 4.4 l/100km); Extra Urban 58.9 – 97.4 mpg (4.8 – 2.9 l/100km); Combined 47.1 – 80.7 mpg (6.0 – 3.5 l/100km). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 139 – 90 g/km.

<sup>†</sup>Fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures are obtained for comparative purposes in accordance with EC directives/regulations and may not be representative of real-life driving conditions. Factors such as driving style, weather and road conditions may also have a significant effect on fuel consumption.

\*With Alfa Romeo Preferenza you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (a charge of 6p per mile for exceeding 6,000 miles per annum in these examples) and being in good condition. Offers may be withdrawn or amended without prior notification. Offer subject to status, a guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Terms and Conditions apply. Alfa Romeo Financial Services, PO Box 4465, Slough SL1 0RW. Offer applies to vehicles registered between 1st April 2014 – 30th June 2014.

<sup>†</sup>Offer price of £15,550 is based on an Alfa MiTo 875cc TB TwinAir 105 bhp Sportiva & includes the £750 customer saving and includes 12 months' road fund licence, first vehicle registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. Figures correct at time of printing. Offer subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. See our website for full details.

Inspired by the Quadrifoglio Verde, the Alfa MiTo Sportiva is packed with technology like Alfa D.N.A. and the Uconnect™ Infotainment System as standard. Alongside the stylish lines, technology and exhilarating drive, it also has:

- ▶ 5-star Euro NCAP Rating
- ▶ 3 year unlimited mileage warranty
- ▶ 3 years Roadside Assistance
- ▶ 3 years Paintwork warranty
- ▶ 8 year Anti-perforation warranty

The Alfa MiTo, built for your heart and your head, driven with passion.

ALFA MITO 875CC TB TWINAIR 105 BHP SPORTIVA  
EXCLUDING ALFA RED SPECIAL PAINT

Offer Price <sup>†</sup>	£15,550
Monthly Payments of*	£199
Customer Deposit	£1,999
Amount of Credit	£13,551
Duration of Contract	48 months
Total Amount Payable by Customer	£17,479
Optional Final Payment (inc. £295 fee)	£6,127
Rate of Interest (Fixed)	4.26%

Representative 5.0% APR

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE





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CO<sub>2</sub> while driving: 0. MPG: N/A

4+ Terms and exclusions apply. 4+ package available to non-business customers on new Renault vehicles. Warranty 4 years/100,000 miles and routine servicing 4 years/48,000 miles (whichever comes first). Servicing package available to Renault Selections customers only; alternatively can be purchased for just £299 (price shown valid when purchased by 31 July 2014). Visit [renault.co.uk/4plus](http://renault.co.uk/4plus) for full details. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. Subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply.  
\*£1250 deposit contribution is available to new Renault Finance customers when taking Renault Finance on a new ZOE (excluding ZOE Expression). Offer cannot be used with other schemes or finance offers and are available on specified new vehicles when ordered between 1 and 31 May 2014, and registered by 30 June 2014.





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# Public Sector

**TO ADVERTISE:**

EMAIL: **sallie.payne@archant.co.uk**

## Interested in policing?

Then why not volunteer to be an

### Independent Custody Visitor

As a volunteer, you will visit police custody suites to check on the welfare of the detainees, ensuring they receive their rights and entitlements and to ensure the conditions of the custody suite are up to standard.

Each visit to a police station cell is undertaken unannounced by two volunteers, who then submit a report to the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner.

If the conditions are found to be unacceptable then appropriate action will be taken to rectify matters.

You will be expected to visit custody suites in Kent once a month, attend training sessions and two to four meetings per year, and an annual general meeting.

Volunteers must be 18 or over.

No formal qualifications are required and full training is provided.

If you are interested in becoming an Independent Custody Visitor, please telephone 01622 604347 or email [icv.scheme@pcc.kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:icv.scheme@pcc.kent.pnn.police.uk) to request an application pack.

Please note that closing date for applications is 16th June 2014 at 12pm

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## Abbey Court School

"We grow people"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a...

## Teacher for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties to commence September 2014

MPS/UPS + SEN + TLR 2C £2,561  
(TLR with previous experience)

Abbey Court School is currently located in pleasant surroundings on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery & Primary) and Strood (Secondary & Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. The school has educational resources of enviable proportions and has been judged 'outstanding' in the last 2 Ofsted inspections. This post would suit newly qualified teachers, or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 6th June 2014

Interviews: 20th June 2014

For further details and a job description, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.



## A level Chemistry Teacher A level Mathematics Teacher

### Competitive Salaries

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Our growing sixth form is seeking two well-qualified subject specialists to join established and high achieving departments.

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Bradstow is a creative and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19. It is situated in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children and young people with autism and severe learning difficulties with associated behaviours that may be challenging. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

### DUE TO EXPANDING OUR PROVISION WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:

#### HOUSEPARENTS - EXTENDED PROVISION

Working as part of the childcare teams, this role involves providing care and support to children and young people mornings, evenings and weekends being a child or young person's Keyworker and some management responsibility.

£22,227 - £25,172 - 41 hours per week,  
(including late/early shifts and weekends) **All Year Round**

#### TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS - Residential Care

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to the children and young people in childcare teams mornings, evenings and weekends. These roles are aimed at candidates with some experience of Care work.

£14,013 - £14,880 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week,  
(including weekends) - **Term time only**, plus 2 weeks \*

#### CHILDCARE SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

As part of the childcare teams, these roles involve providing care and support to the children and young people mornings, evenings and weekends. No experience required, full training will be given.

£11,286 - £11,784 plus 10% per annum - 36.5 hours per week, (including weekends - more hours available) - **Term time only**, plus 2 weeks\*

#### FLEXIBANK TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS

To provide additional support a cover within either the classrooms or residences.

Flexi-bank - £7.26 per hour - **When required** (up to 41 hours per week including split shifts and weekends)

#### COOK

To provide healthy meals for pupils and staff

£10,417 - £11,296, 28 hours per week: Mon, 10.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.,  
Tue - Thurs, 12.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.

& Sun 8.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. Term Time Only, plus two weeks\*

#### DOMESTIC ASSISTANTS

To undertake general cleaning duties and maintain an acceptable standard of cleanliness and hygiene at Bradstow

£8,052 - £8,317 per annum - 27.5 hours per week, 7.30 am - 12.30 am Mon-Fri,  
- Term time only, plus two weeks\*

£4,394 - £4,537 per annum - 15 hours per week, 4 pm - 7 pm Mon-Fri,  
- Term time only, plus two weeks\*

**\*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.**

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, warm, creative and open to learning with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email [personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk). Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 5pm, Thursday 12th June 2014.

**Thamesview SCHOOL**  
with Science and Enterprise Centre  
Headteacher: Mr Henry Ingham MA

## Music Teacher

(Part Time - 2 days a week)  
Required for September 2014 start

Number on roll: 740

Type of School: 11- 16 Mixed High School

Salary: Thamesview Qualified Teacher Scale

Closing date: 6th June 2014, 9.00 am

Interviews: w/c 16th June 2014

Do you want to join an innovative Creative Arts Department with high aspirations for students?

We are seeking to appoint an outstanding classroom practitioner who will work with a committed and inspiring Creative Arts Department in raising achievement further.

Thamesview is a school where everyone is expected to do their best and rapidly rising examination results reflect this.

We benefit from a new school building that provides innovative learning environments and state of the art ICT equipment.

Our ideal candidate will:

- Be able to teach up to GCSE level
- Be enthusiastic and be able to demonstrate innovative and creative teaching practices and literacy strategies
- Have high aspirations for all students
- Have a proven track record of achievement; and
- Be a consistently good or outstanding teacher.

We are committed to providing high quality learning experiences for our children and to supporting our staff through excellent CPD opportunities and bespoke leadership pathways.

If you are interested in joining us in our journey towards becoming an outstanding school please contact our HR Manager on 01474 566552 ext 1120; email [m.thomson@thamesview.kent.sch.uk](mailto:m.thomson@thamesview.kent.sch.uk) for further information or to arrange a visit.

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.  
Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.  
Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy*

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

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Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

### Senior Farm Technician

Required for August 2014

Salary £20,877 - £23,752 (depending on experience)

Full time, 37 hours per week,  
with some hours to be worked at weekends on a rota basis.

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed technician to be responsible for the running of our School Farm. Responsibilities will include overall leadership of the farm, which includes site maintenance, animal welfare, management of specific budgets linked to the farm and line management of the Farm Technician and weekend stock-keepers. The successful applicant will be expected to continue to build upon the links that have been formed with the local rural community and with other schools; particularly those in our Trust, and to encourage extra-curricular activities linked to the farm, such as Young Farmers, agricultural shows and visits. They will also take a lead on environmental projects across the school.

Recruitment packs are available from Westlands School or online ([www.westlands.org.uk](http://www.westlands.org.uk)). Please note that we cannot accept CVs without an application form. Closing date: Friday 6 June 2014 at noon.

*Swale Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.*

**Contact Details**  
Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461  
Email [swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk](mailto:swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk)  
Head of School: Mr S Cox MA  
Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA

Swale Academies Trust Company No 7344732  
Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

### ARCHANT KOS MEDIA LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and Archant KOS Media Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to Archant KOS Media Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by Archant KOS Media Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies Archant KOS Media Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. Archant KOS Media Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by Archant KOS Media Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential owner of the copyright or the music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to the advertiser. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to the advertiser. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to the advertiser.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will include full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. Archant KOS Media Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/verbal content without notice explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with Archant KOS Media Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. Archant KOS Media Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. Archant KOS Media Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. Archant KOS Media Ltd will not seek to recover in full any outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser's legal representatives.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from Archant KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with Archant KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per Archant KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be applied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by Archant KOS Media Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), Archant KOS Media Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use Archant KOS Media Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by Archant KOS Media Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PPS rights should they be required to do so. Any change of voice-over or music to the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in Archant KOS Media Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the advertiser's cost of the service or their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within Archant KOS Media Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of Archant KOS Media Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via Archant KOS Media Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to Archant KOS Media Ltd shall be paid in full, and the advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.  
b. In the event that payment is not received by Archant KOS Media Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.  
c. In the event that payment is not received by Archant KOS Media Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.  
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the advertiser ceasing to trade or the advertiser ceasing to trade, Archant KOS Media Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.  
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by Archant KOS Media Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.  
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which Archant KOS Media Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by Archant KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify Archant KOS Media Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the Archant KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to Archant KOS Media Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent. All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. Archant KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions. Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR  
Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004  
Email: [info@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:info@kosmedia.co.uk)

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The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

#### PA to Hospital Manager – Margate

Part time Hours: 30 per week Closing date: 6/06/2014  
Salary: £18,667.74 pro rata per annum

#### Qualifications

- Maths and English GCSE A-C or equivalent
- 2 years' experience working within an administrative environment
- Word/Excel, IT skills, E-mail, Internet

To discuss this opportunity, or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:  
Lynn Orrin, Hospital Manager via Main Reception, on 01843 234555

For a job description and application form please visit  
[www.spencerprivatehospitals.com/careers](http://www.spencerprivatehospitals.com/careers)

Alternatively, please contact Jo Wright, Senior HR Assistant

Telephone: 01304 245961

E-mail: [joanne.wright@spencerhospitals.com](mailto:joanne.wright@spencerhospitals.com)

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## PLANNING

### TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995

#### NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION TO CANCEL A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1) TO WHICH ARTICLE 5 APPLIES

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is to cancel a Direction which came into force on the 4th February 2013 which withdrew the permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 in respect of the development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice.

A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 9am and 1.30pm on Saturday.

You have the right to make representations or objections in respect of the Direction. Any such representations or objections must be made in writing to the Head of Planning Services, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS, within 28 days from the 27 May.

The Direction was made on the 20 May 2014 and it is proposed that it comes into force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice on 30 June 2014.

#### FIRST SCHEDULE

##### The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995

#### SCHEDULE 2 PART 5 – CARAVAN SITES

##### Class A

The use of the land, other than a building, as a caravan site in the circumstances referred to in paragraph A.2.

#### SCHEDULE 2 PART 6 – AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS

##### Class A – Development on units of 5 hectares or more

- Works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building; or
- any excavation or engineering operations which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit.

##### Class B – Development on units of less than 5 hectares

- the extension or alteration of an agricultural building;
- the installation of additional or replacement plant or machinery;
- the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a sewer, main, pipe, cable or other apparatus;
- the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a private way;
- the provision of a hard surface;
- the deposit of waste; or
- the carrying out of any of the following operations in connection with fish farming, namely, repairing ponds and raceways; the installation of grading machinery, aeration equipment or flow meters and any associated channel; the dredging of ponds; and the replacement of tanks and nets, where the development is reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within the unit.

#### SCHEDULE 2 PART 7 – FORESTRY BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS

##### Class A

The carrying out on land used for the purposes of forestry, including afforestation, of development reasonably necessary for those purposes consisting of :-

- works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building;
- the formation, alteration or maintenance of private ways;
- operations on that land, or on land held or occupied with that land, to obtain the materials required for the formation, alteration or maintenance of such ways;
- other operations (not including engineering or mining operations).

#### SECOND SCHEDULE

A parcel of land having an area of some 47 hectares at Burrswood (also known as Green River Farm), Groombridge, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.

Dated : 24 May 2014



#### THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

**Y14/0559/SH\*** - 45 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AH - Change of use of part of ground floor and all of first floor from retail (class A1) to counselling service (Class D1)

**Y14/0558/SH\*** - 45 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AH - Listed building consent for internal alterations to form a reception, consulting rooms and to alter the staircase, together with retrospective consent for the replacement of the existing ground floor over the cellar

**Y14/0327/SH\*** - Cinderella Farm Burmarsh Road Hythe Kent CT21 4NJ - Continued use of the land as a public nine hole pitch and putt golf course, together with the construction of an associated parking area and clubhouse (affects a Public Right of Way)

**Y14/0525/SH** - 11 Rampart Road Hythe Kent CT21 5BG - Erection of a single storey side/rear extension and front extension.

**Y14/0317/SH\*** - 9 North Road Hythe Kent CT21 5DS - Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising 2 metre crown lift of a Holm Oak (T1); remove stem on west side of canopy of a Holm Oak (T2) and crown lift to balance; reduce 2 x Cypress (G1) to 2.4 metres and re-shape

**Y14/0337/SH\*** - 7 North Road Hythe Kent CT21 5UF - Felling of a Pear and an Apple tree situated within a conservation area

**Y13/1071/SH** - The Grand The Leas Folkestone Kent CT20 2LR - Listed Building Consent for the conversion to residential to include the demolition of internal walls, erection of new walls, introduction of bathrooms and replacement of windows with French doors. Part demolition of existing and build of new boundary wall, creation of new opening in boundary wall with gate.

**Y14/0606/SH\*** - Beavers Hill Rectory Lane Saltwood Hythe Kent - Retrospective application for the erection of a conservatory on the south elevation, a single storey extension on the north elevation and other external alterations.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to [planning@shepway.gov.uk](mailto:planning@shepway.gov.uk). Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

† - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (\*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning  
Shepway District Council

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### TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995

#### NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION CANCELLING A DIRECTION MADE UNDER ARTICLE 4(1) TO WHICH ARTICLE 6 APPLIES

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to which article 6 applies ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is to cancel the Direction that came into force on the 10th November 2012 that withdrew permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 for development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 9am and 1.30pm on Saturday.

You have the right to make representations or objections in respect of the Direction. Any such representations or objections must be made in writing to the Head of Planning Services, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS, within 28 days from the 27th May 2014.

The Direction was made by the Authority on 20 May 2014 and comes into force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice on the 24 May 2014 which is the date on which this Notice is first published. The Direction will expire on 23 November 2014 unless confirmed by the local planning authority before the end of the six month period.

#### FIRST SCHEDULE

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995

#### SCHEDULE 2 PART 2 - MINOR OPERATIONS

##### Class A

The erection, construction, maintenance, improvement or alteration of a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure.

##### Class B

The formation, laying out and construction of a means of access to a highway which is not a trunk road or a classified road, where that access is required in connection with permitted development, being development comprised within Class B of Part 2 of Schedule 2.

#### SCHEDULE 2 PART 4 - TEMPORARY BUILDINGS AND USES

##### Class B

The use of the land for any purpose for not more than 28 days in total in any calendar year, of which not more than 14 days in total may be for the purposes referred to in paragraph B.2, and the provision on the land of any movable structure for the purpose of the permitted use.

#### SECOND SCHEDULE

A parcel of land having an area of some 47 hectares at Burrswood (also known as Green River Farm), Groombridge, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.

Dated : 24 May 2014



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## PLANNING

### Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 14/01472/FULL Primavera Maidstone Road, Brenchley**  
- Redevelopment of site to provide storage and distribution building (Class B8 Use) and detached ancillary offices building (MAJOR) (DEVPLN)
- 14/01519/HOUSE Canterbury Cottage The Green, Brenchley**  
- Single storey rear extension, remodelling of existing garden room into kitchen, conversion of kitchen into boot and shower rooms, projection of roof to form porch rear of new boot room, porch canopy to front entrance, erection of timber shed (CA) (LB)
- 14/01521/LBC Canterbury Cottage The Green, Brenchley**  
- Listed Building Consent: Single storey rear extension, remodelling of existing garden room into kitchen, conversion of kitchen into boot and shower rooms, projection of roof to form porch rear of new boot room, porch canopy to front entrance, erection of timber shed (LB)
- 14/01505/HOUSE The Mews Broadwater Court, Broadwater**  
- Single storey front extension. Conversion of garage to habitable space. Velux window to side elevation (CA)
- 14/01459/LBC The Old Oast Park Farm, Capel**  
- Listed Building Consent - Two storey rear, single storey rear and single storey side extensions (amendment to Listed Building Consent (TW/14/02985/LBC) (LB)
- 14/01461/LBC The Granary Park Farm, Capel**  
- Listed building consent - Change to existing window glazing to slimline double glazed units and retro fitting of existing frames to new window positions (LB)
- 14/01234/LBC The Freight Freight Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**  
- Listed Building Consent - Single storey rear extension (LB)
- 14/01539/FULL 21C & 21D Stone Street Cranbrook, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**  
- Change of use from British Red Cross to Clinic (D1 use) (CA) (LB)
- 14/01509/FULMC 69A Grosvenor Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**  
- Extract flue at rear of existing A3 use (CA)
- 14/01530/HOUSE Poplar Cottage The Street, Frittenden**  
- Proposed replacement garage with garden room (CA)
- 14/01364/FULL Risebridge Oast Risebridge Farm, Goudhurst**  
- Conversion of the upper floors of Risebridge Oasthouse from 4 self-contained residential dwellings to a single dwelling (LB)
- 14/01370/LBC Risebridge Oast Risebridge Farm, Goudhurst**  
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of the upper floors of Risebridge Oasthouse from 4 self-contained residential dwellings to a single dwelling (LB)
- 14/01417/HOUSE Three Chimneys Farmhouse Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst**  
- Demolition of existing porch and construction of new porch; New glazed external door; Internal alterations (LB)
- 14/01418/LBC Three Chimneys Farmhouse Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst**  
- Listed Building Consent - Demolition of existing porch and construction of new porch; New glazed external door; Internal alterations (LB)
- 14/01419/HOUSE Bricklayers West Road, Goudhurst**  
- Demolition of garage and construction of replacement garage. Repairs to brick garden wall. Internal alterations comprising removal of skirting in sitting room and replacement with 25x175mm nom, torus skirting, removal of oak post and brick plinth and strengthening works to existing beam. Replacement of render to chimney (CA) (LB)
- 14/01420/LBC Bricklayers West Road, Goudhurst**  
- Demolition of garage and construction of replacement garage. Repairs to brick garden wall. Internal alterations comprising removal of skirting in sitting room and replacement with 25x175mm nom, torus skirting, removal of oak post and brick plinth and strengthening works to existing beam. Replacement of render to chimney (LB)
- 14/01476/FULL Part Ground Floor Rear Of 2 Colonnade, Hawkhurst**  
- Change of use of part of rear of property to studio apartment (CA) (LB)
- 14/01549/HOUSE The Granary Grovehurst Farm, Horsmonden**  
- Alterations to east elevation to provide 2 no. additional windows and 1 no. door. Replacement of shed with garage/garden store, and fence to garden wall (LB)
- 14/01550/HOUSE The Granary Grovehurst Farm, Horsmonden**  
- Single storey extension to South elevation (LB)
- 14/01551/LBC The Granary Grovehurst Farm, Horsmonden**  
- Listed Building Consent: Single storey extension to South elevation (LB)
- 14/01552/LBC The Granary Grovehurst Farm, Horsmonden**  
- Listed Building Consent: Alterations to east elevation to provide 2 no. additional windows and 1 no. door. Replacement of shed with garage/garden store, and fence to garden wall (LB)
- 14/01397/FULL 57 High Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Replacement windows at front and rear elevations with double-glazed upvc sliding sash and casements (CA)
- 14/01484/HOUSE Croft House 5A Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Two-storey side extension (amendment to planning permission TW/13/03517/HOUSE) (CA)
- 14/01274/FULL Flat 2 4 Lansdowne Road, Park**  
- Extension and alteration to ground floor land and provision of additional parking space (CA)
- 14/01400/HOUSE Autumn Hill Dunorlan Park, Park**  
- Demolition of existing garage and construction of replacement garage with annex above (CA)
- 14/01556/HOUSE 17 Rustwick Rusthall, Rusthall**  
- Single storey rear extension (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website ([www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman  
Head of Planning Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 24 May 2014



### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING APPLICATIONS LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

- DOV/14/00391** Outline application for the erection of eight live-work units (existing warehouses to be demolished)  
**Through the Arch, Astley Avenue, Dover, CT16 2NJ MAJ**
- DOV/14/00399** Erection of a two storey rear extension with front and rear dormers and balcony and associated internal and external alterations  
**Ladydown Farm, Longmete Road, Preston, CT3 1DN LBC**
- DOV/14/00427** Infilling existing internal openings and formation of new opening to St Georges Passage and associated internal alterations  
**71 Middle Street &, 4 St Georges Passage, Deal, CT14 6HN LCN**
- DOV/14/00438** Display of a blue plaque  
**9 Golden Street, Deal, CT14 6JU LCN**
- DOV/14/00442** Conversion to a single residential dwelling and associated internal alterations  
**The Bull Inn, High Street, Eastry, CT13 0HF LCN**
- DOV/14/00454** Construction of new flood defenses and improvements to existing with associated works and landscaping  
**Sandwich Tidal Flood Defences (Reach 3), Sandwich, CT13 CON**
- DOV/14/00465** Installation of replacement windows to rear  
**5 Upper Strand Street, Gardeners Quay, Sandwich, CT13 9DH LCN**
- DOV/14/00472** Installation of rear door, obscure glazing to first floor window and installation of soil pipe to rear elevation and associated internal alterations  
**24 High Street, Sandwich, CT13 9EB LCN**
- DOV/14/00353** Installation of replacement windows with upvc  
**Chillenden Church Hall, Chillenden, CT3 1PS CON**
- DOV/14/00463** Variation of conditions 2, 8 and 9 of appeal decision APP/X2220/A/13/2205375 to allow replacement of drawing number 13/70/11 revision B with 13/40/11 revision C relating to access and parking alterations and the removal of the term "turning facility" from condition 8 (application under section 73 application)  
**132 The Street, Ash, CT3 2AA SLC**
- DOV/14/00466** Erection of a single storey rear extension, extension of existing dormer, installation of a glazed canopy, flue and timber boarding and erection of a detached outbuilding  
**Fairholme, Upper Street, Tilmanstone, CT14 0JW CON**
- DOV/14/00475** Installation of 410 solar panels to western facing roofslope and 390 to eastern facing roofslope  
**Stevens and Carlotti, Pembroke Works, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, CT13 9ST ARW**
- DOV/14/00398** Erection of a two storey rear extension with front and rear dormers and balcony  
**Ladydown Farm, Longmete Road, Preston, CT3 1DN LBC**
- DOV/14/00418** Conversion of rear store building to shop area with a first floor rear extensions over, a single storey rear link extension and the creation of a terrace area with external staircase with 1.8 metre glazed screen and associated external works  
**Maxedts Pet Shop, 136 High Street, Deal, CT14 6BE SLC**
- DOV/14/00429** Display of a blue plaque  
**9 Golden Street, Deal, CT14 6JU LCN**
- DOV/14/00441** Change of use and conversion to a single residential dwelling  
**The Bull Inn, High Street, Eastry, CT13 0HF LCN**
- DOV/14/00444** Erection of a rear conservatory extension (existing conservatory to be demolished)  
**Manor Cottage, Church Lane, Ringwould, CT14 8HR CON**

#### Reason for Advert Codes:-

- CON** – Within Conservation Area **MAJ** – Major Development  
**LBC** – The proposal affects a Listed Building **ARW** – Affects a Public Right of Way  
**LCN** – Listed Building in a Conservation Area  
**SLC** – To affect setting of a Listed Building & Conservation Area

**Some applications are not publicised in this list.** All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website [www.dover.gov.uk/planning](http://www.dover.gov.uk/planning) or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

**Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. Any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.**

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

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### Public Notice (By Applicant) Licensing Application – Licensing Act 2003

An application has been made by **Nip from the Hip** to Maidstone Borough council, as the Licensing Authority, for the grant of a New Premises Licence.

At the **Integra:me, Unit 23 Bircholt Road, Parkwood, Maidstone, ME15 9YY**

This application includes proposals to:

sell/supply alcohol in between the hours of  
09:00 – 21:00

the application may be viewed at the Licensing Team, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ (tel: 01622 602028) during normal office hours.

Interested parties (living in the vicinity of the premises to be licensed) may make representations regarding the application to the Licensing Officer at the above address.

**Representations must be received on or before  
18 June 2014**

Representations must be in writing and may not be submitted by fax or email. A representation form is available from the Council website at [www.maidstone.gov.uk](http://www.maidstone.gov.uk) or from the Licensing Team [licensing@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@maidstone.gov.uk)

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is £5,000



### THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

**Y14/0559/SH#** - 45 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AH  
- Change of use of part of ground floor and all of first floor from retail (class A1) to counselling service (Class D1)

**Y14/0558/SH#** - 45 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AH  
- Listed building consent for internal alterations to form a reception, consulting rooms and to alter the staircase, together with retrospective consent for the replacement of the existing ground floor over the cellar

**Y14/0327/SH\*** - Cinderella Farm Burmarsh Road Hythe Kent CT21 4NJ  
- Continued use of the land as a public nine hole pitch and putt golf course, together with the construction of an associated parking area and clubhouse (affects a Public Right of Way)

**Y14/0525/SH** - 11 Rampart Road Hythe Kent CT21 5BG  
- Erection of a single storey side/rear extension and front extension.

**Y14/0317/SH†** - 9 North Road Hythe Kent CT21 5DS  
- Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising 2 metre crown lift of a Holm Oak (T1); remove stem on west side of canopy of a Holm Oak (T2) and crown lift to balance; reduce 2 x Cypress (G1) to 2.4 metres and re-shape

**Y14/0337/SH** - 7 North Road Hythe Kent CT21 5UF  
- Felling of a Pear and an Apple tree situated within a conservation area

**Y13/1071/SH** - The Grand The Leas Folkestone Kent CT20 2LR  
- Listed Building Consent for the conversion to residential to include the demolition of internal walls, erection of new walls, introduction of bathrooms and replacement of windows with French doors. Part demolition of existing and build of new boundary wall, creation of new opening in boundary wall with gate.

**Y14/0606/SH†** - Beavers Hill Rectory Lane Saltwood Hythe Kent  
- Retrospective application for the erection of a conservatory on the south elevation, a single storey extension on the north elevation and other external alterations.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to [planning@shepway.gov.uk](mailto:planning@shepway.gov.uk). Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

† - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (\*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning  
Shepway District Council

### LICENSING ACT 2003: Application for Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that the University of Kent, the Registry, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ has applied to Canterbury City Council for the GRANT of a Premises Licence to operate the following Regulated Activities:

Plays, films, indoor sporting events, live and recorded music, performance of dance, anything of a similar description, and the sale of alcohol both on and off the premises, between 11.00 and 23.00 hrs every day; Late Night Refreshment and the sale of alcohol off the premises only, between 23.00 and 03.00 hrs, every day, at the following premises: Hut 8, Turing College, University of Kent, Canterbury.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at [www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing) or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 16/06/2014. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that their identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

### Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Toll Global Forwarding Group (UK) Ltd  
Of

c/o BRS at Thomas Hardie, 5th Avenue, Trafford Park, Manchester, Greater Manchester, M17 1TR

Is applying for a licence to use

Unit B, Acorn Industrial Park, Crayford Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 4AL

As an operating centre for 5 goods vehicles and 3 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of the land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Central Licencing Office, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.



# Club racing to the front of the distance running pack

**F**EW athletes from Tonbridge Athletic Club (TAC) were competing in championships a decade ago, but in an astonishing turnaround the west Kent outfit have since then won 34 medals in the National Cross Country Championships.

The club are continuing to develop all these years later with the help of dedicated runners, families and coaches.

Distance running coach Mark Hookway has played his part in the success that the club have enjoyed in recent years but is quick to compliment his fellow coaching staff.

"The young athletes have had real success, although the senior teams are also now getting stronger," he said.

"The key reason is that we have quite a few coaches and helpers who are focused on improving our distance running teams and individuals.

"We have also benefited from some good publicity from the local media, our own websites and word of mouth. This has meant that anyone showing some talent is likely to have heard about what we do and be attracted to the club.

"We take the sport seriously, work as a team of coaches and encourage the athletes to feel part of a successful club."

Peter Mason, team manager and middle distance coach at Tonbridge, adds that everyone in the club plays a huge role in the success story.

"A lot of the success initially comes from coaching and team managing, but there is a lot of hard work that goes on behind the scenes – secretary, treasurer and so on – who put a lot of hard work in so that we can coach and get good teams together.

"So I would say that it is a real team effort from all sections. That makes us a successful club."

It's clear that the coaches are passionate about the sport and Hookway has competed in athletics his whole life; his experiences mean he can give valuable advice to the athletes he trains so that they can improve at their individual or team events.

Hookway said: "As coaches we are learning all the time, both from experience as to what seems to work and also talking to others from around the country.

"With the focused and dedicated runners, we try to get them to understand what might lie ahead in the months and years to come, so that there are not any surprises.

"It's not a dictatorship, so when athletes get a bit older the coach relationship changes and you tend to discuss things more and work together."

The Tonbridge coach manages all the club's age groups at cross country and road racing but mainly works with distance runners who are older



**CLUB RUNNERS:** Hamish Wyatt, Christian Lee and James Puxty (top); Sam Crick, James Puxty, Christian Lee and Charlie Crick (left); and (above) the under-20s men's team with trophy... Max Nicholls, Corey De'ath, Ryan Driscoll and Robbie Farnham-Rose

In the last decade, Tonbridge Athletic Club's fortunes have improved dramatically. **Rhys Griffiths** talks to two of the club's coaches to find the secret of their runners' success.

than 17 years old. He acknowledges that it requires a totally different way of communicating because many of the young athletes will be heading off to university.

However, Hookway is keen to monitor how they do even when they are far away.

"One of the key aspects is ensuring that they still feel part of Tonbridge when living away and get credit for any good performances they might achieve.

"Coaching athletes varies a lot.

Some just come along to the club training sessions, while others are in dialogue daily."

**M**ason agrees with his fellow coach but states that it can sometimes be a challenging situation.

"This can be a difficult time for some," he said. "Especially if they are used to group training and they move to a university which does not have an interest in athletics.

"Hopefully they would have really

enjoyed being at the club and will miss it and know what it is like to be fit and part of a team.

"I think it is important to keep in touch with the athletes to let them know they are missed but more importantly to assist and encourage them."

The club have supervised training sessions every Tuesday and Thursday, with training differing depending on the events in which the athletes are competing.

TAC use the facilities provided by

**“A lot of the success initially comes from coaching and team managing, but there is a lot of hard work that goes on behind the scenes”**

**Peter Mason,**

TAC team manager and coach

Tonbridge School, giving them access to their school fields and running track, as well as being able to use the countryside around the area for long-distance training.

Hookway said: "We are certainly fortunate with the area that we live in as there are good country runs, a good track at Tonbridge School, facilities for circuit training that the club hire and more.

"Typically, our training groups have a relatively easy August period, before building up through the winter with steady runs, hills and long interval sessions.

"Then, if track races are the target, we have to start introducing more speed work and, just as importantly, select races of the right level and the right distance to give them the best chance of performing in their target races.

"For quite a few of the track championships, qualifying times are needed, so races have to be found where they have a chance of achieving these first."

As well as the quality facilities, athletes are placed in the care of excellent coaches and team managers, who support their athletes wholly.

Mason is the team manager of the UK Development League as well as a middle-distance running coach. He explained the differences and similarities between his two positions.

"I can give advice to athletes whom I coach, but I cannot when it comes to, say, pole-vaulting. I still encourage and take an interest but leave technical advice to others.

"I suppose they are different in that one is trying to get the best out of the team as a whole when managing, but coaching is looking after one particular section. The aims, though, are the same."

Hookway and Mason share the view that without everyone at the club and the support from the athletes' families their job would be much more difficult.

It is clear just how much work goes in at Tonbridge Athletic Club, not just on the track but behind the scenes, and with all the recent successes the club have enjoyed it is only right that all that effort, from one and all, receives its due praise.





# Lydden Hill hosts world rallycross spectacular

CROWD favourite Petter Solberg tops a record 37-car entry all gunning for glory in the UK's first round of the exciting new FIA World Rallycross Championship presented by Monster Energy.

The 39-year-old Norwegian superstar arrives at Lydden Hill for the AUTOSPORT World RX of Great Britain this weekend leading the World RX standings after winning the opening round held earlier this month in Portugal.

"I'm really looking forward to Lydden," said Solberg, who is nicknamed 'Hollywood' on account of his extrovert personality.

"The circuit is a lot of fun to drive, because of all the elevation: it's a bit like a mini-Spa. I have to say that Pat Doran [circuit owner] has done a great job: you can see that he's put a lot of investment into the track to make it fantastic for the drivers and the spectators too."

Petter is no stranger to success in the UK and is loved by British fans. As a member of the iconic Subaru World Rally Team he won Wales Rally GB, Britain's round of the FIA World Rally Championship, no fewer than four times.

He also clinched the 2003 World Rally Championship title on British soil before switching back to the sport of rallycross at the start of last season.

"The British fans are so enthusiastic, with a passion for the sport just like mine," he said.

"British people really 'get' rallycross because it's always been part of their motor sport. And of course I have lots of fans in Britain, too, because we won the Rally GB many times, including my world title. So I'm very, very happy to be coming."

Having competed at Lydden in the past, Solberg knows all about the challenges it presents.

"The layout is quite technical but you also need commitment and bravery," he explained.

"The secret is probably just to carry as much momentum as possible into the corners, but for that you need a good chassis set-up. Rallycross is all about finding the best all-round compromise.

"It would be easy for me to make a car that was mighty on the asphalt, for example, but you might lose out on the gravel. That's especially the case for Lydden, with all the high-speed transitions."



**CROWD FAVOURITE:** Petter Solberg (above) and his fellow competitors in the AUTOSPORT World RX of Great Britain are at Lydden Hill this weekend

After now scoring his maiden World RX win with his PSRX run Citroën DS3 Supercar, Petter is aiming to build on that performance as the thrilling new series prepares for its only UK appearance in 2014.

"We won the first round in Portugal, which was great, but that just makes me all the more determined to carry on like this for the rest of the season. That's why I can't wait to get to Lydden – it's going to be another absolutely fantastic weekend," he predicted with a big grin.

Following a sell-out crowd in Portugal, the World RX is expecting another packed house in Britain – indeed advanced ticket sales for the AUTOSPORT World RX of Great Britain are at record levels.

■ Tickets are available via either the official [www.lyddenhill.co.uk](http://www.lyddenhill.co.uk) website or the Ticket Hotline on 0844 858 8518 (calls cost 6p per minute plus network extras). Accompanied children aged 12 and under are admitted free.

## Edwards eyes a hat-trick of victories for women at HQ

KENT captain Charlotte Edwards will lead her unbeaten women's team at their only match at The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence, today (Sunday).

They play Warwickshire (11am start) in the Royal London Women's Championship 50-over clash at Canterbury, having been impressive in their first two outings of the season.

They crushed Yorkshire by 173 runs at Upchurch CC, spearheaded by Edwards (129) and Tamsin Beaumont (86).

Kent bowler Megan Belt took 3-12 as Yorkshire collapsed to 92 all out in response to Kent's 265-5.

The match against Middlesex, at Edmonton CC, was a tighter affair, with Kent winning by 34 runs. They compiled 231-9, Beaumont (53) and Laura Marsh (50) top-scoring, before they dismissed their opponents for 197.



**SKIP:** Charlotte Edwards



**MOVING ON:** Adam Birchall

## Defeat for Ladies could cost title

GILLINGHAM Ladies could have missed out on the FA Women's Premier League Southern Division title thanks to a 3-0 home defeat to Coventry City Ladies on Sunday.

Gills had been top of the table and a draw would have clinched the title. They must now hope Coventry fail to win at Portsmouth today (Sunday).

## Birchall joins Bromley after Gills farewell

BROMLEY have signed Adam Birchall following the forward's release by Gillingham.

Birchall will be joined at Hayes Lane by Sam Long, Reece Prestedge and Harry Grant, who was also let go by the Gills.

Birchall began his career at Arsenal, but it was his 64 goals in 78 matches for Dover Athletic between 2007 and 2009 that made him a non-league star before he signed for Gillingham in 2011.

He suffered grim luck at Priestfield, however, where a knee injury ruled him out of his entire first season.

Subsequently, he made just 21 appearances for Gills before manager Peter Taylor chose not to retain him.

## Brands tribute to Sir Jack Brabham

LE Mans winner David Brabham will be at Brands Hatch today (Sunday) to lead a parade of cars in honour of his father, Sir Jack Brabham, who died on Monday aged 88.

Tickets for the Masters Historic Festival are available on the gate. Phone 0843 453 9000 or visit [www.brandshatchmastersfestival.com](http://www.brandshatchmastersfestival.com).

## Akinfenwa turns down new deal

STRIKER Bayo Akinfenwa is leaving Gillingham.

He was offered a new contract to stay at Priestfield, but the two sides were not able to agree terms.

Manager Peter Taylor told the club website: "Sadly, we have been unable to agree terms on a new deal and so Bayo will be leaving the club."

## Kent thrashed despite Harmison ton

KENT suffered a grim defeat to Gloucestershire at Bristol during the week.

A first-innings total of 114 meant Kent were always up against it and when they were eventually set an im-

possible 582 to win they were in danger of a record defeat at 69-5.

Ben Harmison's 125, however, was largely responsible for keeping the margin of defeat to 290 runs.

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13/63 1.6 TDI 90 SE Estate 5dr Brilliant Silver under 3,000 miles	£12,995
14/14 1.6 TDI 75 SE Estate 5dr Delivery Mileage Denim Blue	£10,995
11/11 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr Estate DSG Corrida Red under 37,000 miles	£10,995
11/61 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance DSG 5dr Hatchback Brilliant Silver under 25,000 miles	£10,495
12/62 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate DSG Black Magic Pearl under 32,000 miles	£9,995
11/60 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr, DSG Race Blue under 40,000 miles	£9,750
11/11 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Corrida Red under 22,000 miles	£9,695
11/60 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr DSG Auto Black Magic Pearl under 17,000 miles	£9,495
11/61 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr Estate DSG Spirit Yellow under 14,000 miles	£8,995
11/11 1.6 TDI SE 5dr Estate Cappuccino Beige under 27,000 miles	£8,995
14/14 1.2 12V 69 Special Edition 5dr Candy White Delivery Mileage	£8,695
14/14 1.2 12V 69 Special Edition 5dr Brilliant Silver Delivery Mileage	£8,695
14/14 1.2 12V 69 Special Edition 5dr Denim Blue Delivery Mileage	£8,695
10/60 1.2 12v 69 Elegance 5dr Rosso Brunello under 5,000 miles	£7,995
12/61 1.2 TSI 86 SE 5dr Corrida Red under 27,000 miles	£7,795
10/10 1.6 TDI Elegance 5dr Estate Metal Grey under 48,000 miles	£7,995
10/10 1.4 TDI 80 Level 3 5dr Hatchback Rosso Brunello	£6,995
09/09 1.4 16V 85 Level 2 5dr Brilliant Silver under 35,000 miles	£5,995

#### ŠKODA Rapid

13/63 Spaceback 1.2 TSI 105 SE 5dr Candy White under 3,000 miles	£14,995
13/63 1.6 TDI 105 SE 5dr Red Rosso Brunello under 3,000 miles	£14,650
13/63 Spaceback 1.2 TSI 105 SE 5dr Candy White under 1,000 miles	£13,995

#### ŠKODA Yeti

10/60 2.0 TDI CR Elegance 4x4 5dr Aqua Blue under 44,000 miles	£15,995
12/12 1.2 TSI 105 SE Plus 5dr Steel Grey under 12,000 miles	£14,995
11/61 2.0 TDI 110 SE Plus 5dr Corrida Red under 31,000 miles	£14,995
10/60 2.0 TDI 110 S 5dr Black Magic under 12,000 miles	£12,995
12/61 1.2 TSI 105 S 5dr Steel Grey under 18,000 miles	£12,695

#### ŠKODA Roomster

13/13 1.6 TDI 90 SE 5dr Brilliant Silver under 3,000 miles	£11,495
12/61 1.2 TSI 105 SE 5dr DSG Cappuccino Beige under 16,000 miles	£9,695

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10/60 2.0 TDI 170 vRS 5dr Hatchback Candy White under 35,000 miles	£12,895
11/11 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Pacific Blue under 13,000 miles	£12,495
12/12 1.6 TDI 105 SE Plus 5dr Petrol Blue Metallic under 35,000 miles	£10,995
11/11 2.0 TDI 140 Elegance 5dr Hatchback Brilliant Silver under 34,000 miles	£10,995
10/10 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Hatchback Meteor Grey under 37,000 miles	£10,695
10/10 1.4 TSI 122 Elegance 5dr Aqua Blue under 12,000 miles	£10,595
10/60 1.2 TSI 105 S 5dr DSG Auto Storm Blue under 9,000 miles	£9,495

#### ŠKODA Superb

13/63 2.0 TDI 170 Outdoor Estate 4x4 5dr Black Magic under 4,000 miles	£22,995
11/61 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Steel Grey under 32,000 miles	£16,495
11/11 1.8 TSI 160 Elegance 5dr DSG Brilliant Silver under 36,000 miles	£11,895

#### ŠKODA Estate

13/63 Superb 2.0 TDI 170 Outdoor Estate 4x4 5dr Black Magic under 4,000 miles	£22,995
11/61 Superb 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Steel Grey under 32,000 miles	£16,495
13/13 Octavia 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Cappuccino under 10,000 miles	£15,495
14/14 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr Estate DSG Corrida Red under 37,000 miles	£10,995
14/14 Fabia 1.6 TDI 75 SE Estate 5dr Denim Blue Delivery Mileage	£10,995
13/63 Fabia 1.6 TDI 90 SE Estate 5dr Brilliant Silver under 3,000 miles	£12,995
11/11 Fabia 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Corrida Red under 22,000 miles	£9,695
11/61 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr Estate DSG Sprint Yellow under 14,000 miles	£8,995
11/11 Fabia 1.6 TDI SE 5dr Estate Cappuccino Beige under 27,000 miles	£8,995
10/10 Fabia 1.6 TDI Elegance 5dr Estate Metal Grey under 48,000 miles	£7,795

#### DSG/Automatics

11/61 Superb 2.0 TDI 170 160 Elegance 5dr Estate DSG Steel Grey under 32,000 miles	£16,495
13/13 Octavia 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Cappuccino under 10,000 miles	£14,995
13/13 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr DSG Candy White under 9,000 miles	£12,995
11/11 Superb 1.8 TSI 160 Elegance 5dr DSG Brilliant Silver under 36,000 miles	£11,895
11/11 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr Estate DSG Corrida Red under 37,000 miles	£10,995
11/61 Fabia 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr DSG Auto Brilliant Silver under 25,000 miles	£10,495
12/62 Fabia 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate DSG Black Magic Pearl under 32,000 miles	£9,995
11/60 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr DSG Race Blue under 40,000 miles	£9,750
12/61 Roomster 1.2 TSI 105 SE 5dr DSG Cappuccino Beige under 16,000 miles	£9,695
11/60 Fabia 1.2 TSI 105 Elegance 5dr DSG Black Magic Pearl under 17,000 miles	£9,495
10/60 Octavia 1.2 TSI 105 S 5dr DSG Auto Storm Blue under 9,000 miles	£9,495
11/61 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr Estate DSG Spirit Yellow under 14,000 miles	£8,995

#### Demonstrators

13/63 Superb 2.0 TDI 170 Outdoor Estate 4x4 5dr Black Magic under 4,000 miles	£22,995
13/13 Octavia 1.6 TDI 105 Elegance 5dr Estate Cappuccino under 10,000 miles	£14,995
13/63 Spaceback 1.2 TSI 105 SE 5dr Candy White under 3,000 miles	£14,995
13/63 Rapid 1.6 TDI 105 SE 5dr Red Rosso Brunello under 3,000 miles	£14,650
13/63 Spaceback 1.2 TSI 105 SE 5dr Candy White under 1,000 miles	£13,995
13/13 Fabia 1.4 TSI vRS 180 5dr, DSG Candy White under 9,000 miles	£12,995
13/63 Citigo 1.0 MPI 60 Sport 5dr Deep Black under 3,000 miles	£9,650
13/63 Citigo 1.0 MPI 60 S 5dr Candy White under 3,000 miles	£7,395

#### Other makes

12/62 Audi A3 2.0 TDI 140 S-Line 3dr Silver under 15,000 miles	£16,995
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